



# **UN Country |** Annual Results Report 2023

# **Foreword by the Resident** Coordinator

As we present the 2023 Annual United Nations Country Team (UNCT) Results Report for Mozambique, I am both honoured and humbled to reflect on our remarkable journey together over the past year. This report highlights our collective achievements and underscores our unwavering commitment to supporting Mozambique's aspirations towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The past year has been a testament to the resilience and determination of the Mozambican people and their government amidst challenges and opportunities. Most notably, the province of Cabo Delgado witnessed a notable shift in the humanitarian situation as thousands of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) returned to their homes for the first time since the conflict erupted in 2017, propelled by improved security, familial ties, and economic necessities. Meanwhile, the country grappled with the devastating effects of Tropical Storm Freddy, affecting over 1.1 million people across various provinces, underscoring the ever-present threat of climate-related disasters and the critical need for enhanced resilience and disaster preparedness. Amidst these challenges, the Mozambican local elections in October 2023 effectively kickstarted the current electoral process, which will get continued support from the UN for enhanced participatory governance and processes.

In 2023, the UNCT in Mozambique, comprising 25 diverse agencies, funds, and programs, continued to work hand in hand with the Government of Mozambique, civil society, the private sector, and international partners. Together, we strived to enhance human development, promote sustainable livelihoods, foster climate resilience, and support peacebuilding, human rights, and inclusive governance. Our efforts aim at creating a more equitable, prosperous, and sustainable future for all Mozambicans.

The year marked significant milestones, including improved maternal health outcomes and reduced neonatal mortality rates, alongside increasing access to primary education—particularly for girls and marginalised communities—and improving integrated water resources management. Our efforts facilitated the training of 61,270 people in climate-smart agriculture, contributing to more sustainable and productive farming practices. We've also empowered 8,943 people to engage in peacebuilding, policymaking, and community-led stabilisation initiatives.

I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to everyone who has contributed to our shared achievements. As we look to the work ahead of us, the upcoming Summit of the Future will be a critical opportunity to renew our commitment towards the continued partnership and shared vision required to achieve the ambitious goal of a more inclusive, resilient, and sustainable Mozambique.

Thank you for your unwavering support and collaboration.



**Dr. Catherine Sozi** United Nations Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator Mozambique

#### **UN COUNTRY TEAM**

The United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Mozambique consists of 25 different agencies working together. They are focused on implementing the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) from 2022 to 2026, led by Mozambique's Minister of Foreign Affairs and the UN Resident Coordinator (RC).

Of these agencies, 18 have local offices in Mozambique and seven work from their main or regional offices. This setup shows the UN's strong commitment to helping Mozambique achieve its sustainable development objectives. It ensures that the right skills and resources are available to meet the country's needs and fulfil the UNSDCF goals, combining efforts across the humanitarian, development, and peace continuum.

#### **Entities with physical presence**



























**UNODC** 

unicef

















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#### **Entities without physical presence**









In 2023, changes in the advisory capacity of the UNCT in Mozambigue included the transfer of the human rights adviser to start leading the OHCHR team in Mozambique while the setting up of a full-fledged office is being finalised. Given the unique mandate and expertise of OHCHR, the opening of a country office in the country is a positive development to strengthen UN technical assistance and advice in the field of human rights to State institutions, civil society, and other stakeholders, as well as to support the implementation of human rights

commitments and recommendations from human rights mechanisms accepted by Mozambique.

The Peace and Development Advisory capacity was discontinued throughout the year until the global assessment exercise, which should determine what support can be dedicated to Mozambique, was completed. The Office of the Resident Coordinator continued to host the Donor Coordination Platform (DCP) secretariat, and efforts are being made to ensure the sustainability of this capacity.

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# KEY DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS OF THE UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM IN THE COUNTRY

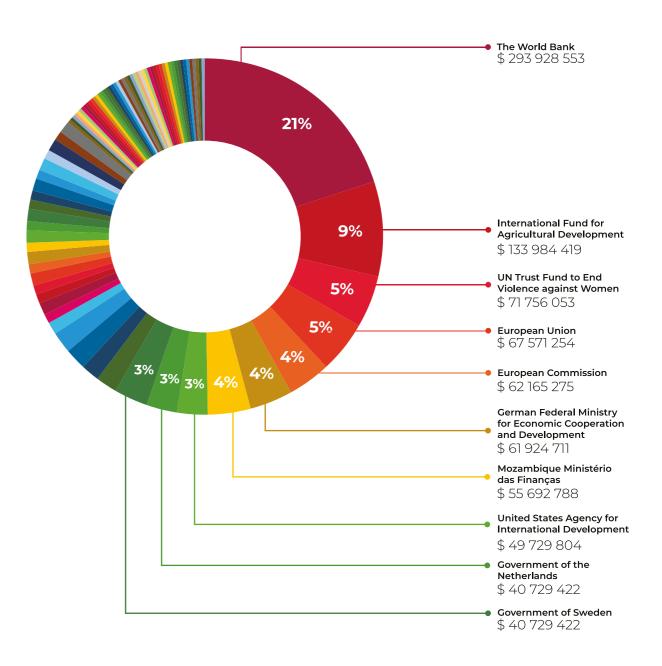
The primary partner in development for the United Nations is the Government of Mozambique. This collaboration is supported by a vast network of stakeholders, including international financial institutions, donor governments, and development agencies. Additionally, the partnership approach encompasses civil society organisations (CSOs),

non-governmental organisations (NGOs), the private sector, and other public sector institutions. Academia, the mass media, and the citizens of Mozambique also play crucial roles in this collective effort, enhancing the impact and reach of development initiatives.

**Table 1 -** Key Government Partners

Partner	Acronym	Name
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	MADER	Ministério da Agricultura e Desenvolvimento Rural
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation	MINEC	Ministério dos Negócios Estrangeiros e Cooperação
Ministry of Economy and Finance	MEF	Ministério da Economia e Finanças
Ministry of Justice, Constitutional Affairs and Religion	MJCR	Ministério da Justiça, Assuntos Constitucionais e Religiosos
Office of the Attorney General	PGR	Procuradoria-Geral da República
Ministry of Health	MISAU	Ministério da Saúde
National Institute of Health	INS	Instituto Nacional de Saúde
Ministry of Sea, Inland Waters and Fisheries	MIMAIP	Ministério do Mar, Águas Interiores e Pescas
Ministry of Defence	MDN	Ministério da Defesa Nacional
Ministry of Land and Environment	MTA	Ministério da Terra e Ambiente
Ministry of Education and Human Development	MINEDH	Ministério da Educação e Desenvolvimento Humano
Ministry of Public Works, Housing and Water Resources	MOPHRH	Ministério das Obras Públicas, Habitação e Recurso Hídricos
Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security	MINTESS	Ministério do Trabalho, Emprego e Segurança Socia
Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Action	MGCAS	Ministério do Gênero, Criança e Acção Social
lational Institute of Social Action	INAS	Instituto Nacional de Acção Social
National Institute for Risk and Disaster Management	INGD	Instituto Nacional de Gestão de Riscos e Desastres
Technical Secretariat for Food Security and Nutrition	SETSAN	Secretariado Técnico de Segurança Alimentar e Nutricional
State Secretariat for Youth and Employment	SEJE	Secretaria de Estado da Juventude e Emprego
Ministry of State Administration and Public Service	MAEFP	Ministério da Administração Estatal e Função Pública
National Institute of Statistics	INE	Instituto Nacional de Estatistica
Cereal Institute of Mozambique	ICM	Instituto de Cereais de Moçambique
National Assembly and Provincial Assemblies	-	Assembleia Nacional e Assembleias Provinciais
Supreme Court of Mozambique	TS	Tribunal Supremo de Moçambique
Ministry of Interior	MINT	Ministério do Interior
Office for Post Cyclone Reconstruction	GREPOC	Gabinete de Reconstrução Pós-Ciclone

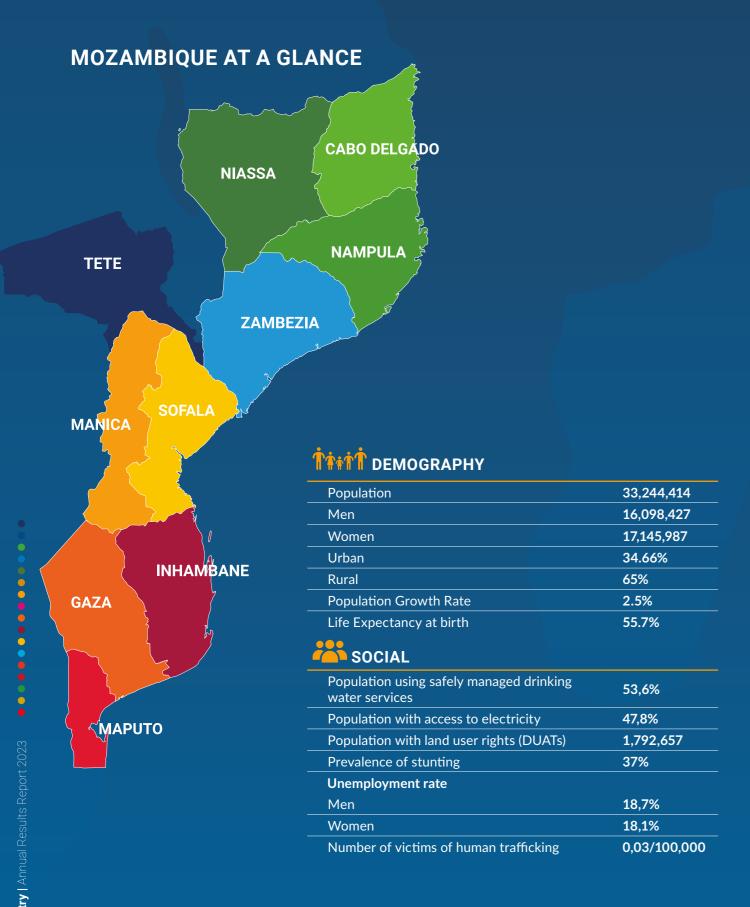
Graph 1 - Available resources 2022 - 2026 by contributor, in USD1.



The World Bank and the International Fund for Agricultural Development continue to be the top contributors to the currently available resources for implementing the UNSDCF. Together, their contributions represent 30% of the 1.4 billion USD already made available for the entire cooperation framework cycle until 2026. Other key contributors include the European Union, the Government of Mozambique, and the Government of Germany.

In 2021, the UNCT established the UN Mozambique Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) for Mozambique, aiming at supporting coherent actions towards accomplishing the 2030 Agenda. The Fund aims to mobilise financing for strategic interventions through which the UN development system and its partners can contribute to achieving the Mozambican national development priorities, which will be reflected in the UNSDCF (2022 – 20 and ultimately contribute to Agenda 2030).

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== LDOCATION	
Illiteracy rate	38.3%
Men	25,9%
Women	49,2%
Urban	18,2%
Rural	50,3%

### **HEALTH**

Maternal mortality ratio	407 / 100 000
Neonatal mortality rate	24 / 1000
HIV infections /1 000 uninfected population	2.68

People reached	1.5 M
Organization responding (INGO, NNGO, UN, other)	89
IDPs with access to inclusive and representative governance structure	315,130
Children reached with formal or non-formal education	153,000
Children under 5 screened for acute malnutrition	108,618
Outpatient consultations	104,076
People assisted with basic emergency shelter and NFI kits	241,970

# **ECONOMIC**

GDP per capita (2015-2022) Source: ENDE



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#### 1.1 ANALYSIS OF KEY **DEVELOPMENT TRENDS AND EMERGING ISSUES**

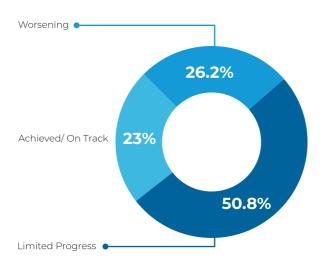
The Republic of Mozambique, classified as a lowincome country, had an approximate population of 33 million in 2023. Over the past two decades, the country has seen significant progress, including lower child mortality rates, improved access to healthcare, basic education for girls and boys, and enhancements in water supply and electricity infrastructure. The insights and prospects identified by the Common Country Assessment (CCA) conducted in 2020, which informed the creation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) for 2022-2026, remain pertinent. Recent data and events support the development trends and opportunities initially outlined by the CCA.

#### **SNAPSHOT OF PROGRESS TOWARDS AGENDA 2030**

The country's overall SDG score (a composite measure of all SDG completion) in 2023 is 52.69, at the same level as in 2019, indicating stagnation. According to the information of the Sustainable Development Report 2023<sup>2</sup>, showing the progress on SDG targets in Mozambique up to the year 2022 or the most recent year with data availability:

- 23.0% of the SDG targets have been achieved or are on track,
- 50.8% are showing limited progress, and
- 26.2% are worsening.

**Graph 2 - Progress on SDG Targets in Mozambique** 





#### SDGs THAT HAVE SEEN IMPROVEMENTS IN THE LAST YEARS INCLUDE:



The maternal mortality rate is improving.



Improvement management of municipal solid waste.



The demand for family planning satisfied by modern methods has increased.



Reduced emissions from CO2 fuel consumption and cement production.



The population using at least basic drinking water services increased.



Government spending in health and education grew in 2022 in absolute terms.



According to locally available data, the population with access to electricity is rising.



#### SDGs THAT HAVE SEEN NEGATIVE OR STAGNANT TRENDS INCLUDE:



The poverty headcount is increasing.



The proportion of the urban population living in slums is stagnating

#### **Graph 3 -** Figure 1 – Snapshot of SDG trends in Mozambique





#### THE MIXED PICTURE OF HUMAN **DEVELOPMENT PROGRESS**

Increasing poverty headcount and persistent humanitarian needs linked to the conflict in the Northern region and recurrent natural hazards highlight the fragility of a significant portion of the population. Projections estimate that from October 2023 to March 2024, about 3.3 million people in Mozambique will suffer high levels of acute food insecurity (Integrated Food Security Phase Classification - IPC-Phase 3 or above). a considerable increase compared to previous IPC figures. According to Mozambique's National Institute for Disaster Risk Management and Reduction (INGD), approximately 2.5 million people are projected to be at risk of cyclones, floods, and drought in the 2023/2024 rainy/cyclonic season. While nutrition outcomes have improved over the past decade, with the percentage of children under five suffering from chronic malnutrition decreasing, the prevalence of anaemia remains a concern, with 72.5% of children affected, and the stunting rate has shown little progression in Cabo Delgado<sup>3</sup>.

Regarding health outcomes, the 2023 Demographic Health Survey (DHS) showed increased hospital births attended by medical professionals and decreased infant mortality. The neonatal, child, and adolescent mortality rates also showed substantial improvements. Nevertheless, regional disparities remain, and the Zambezia province has the lowest coverage of pre-natal care (66%) and assisted birth (52%) by a qualified health professional.

In terms of education, the 2022 Household Budget Survey reported that the illiteracy rate in Mozambique stood at 38.3%, marking a promising 1.6% reduction compared to the figures from 2020. This illiteracy burden was notably higher in rural areas, affecting 50.3% of the population, in stark contrast to the urban areas, where the illiteracy rate was substantially lower at 18.2%. Furthermore, a significant gender disparity persisted, with 49.2% of women and 25.9% of men being unable to read and write.

According to the 2024 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan<sup>4</sup>, an estimated 704,000 displaced people need assistance in 2024, with 600,000 displaced by the conflict and 100,000 by natural disasters. Despite the steady return of IDPs to their home districts that marked the humanitarian situation in northern Mozambique in 2023, there is no significant decrease from the 740,000 people who needed assistance in 2023. The return of IDPs did not mark the end of vulnerability. Many returnees, away for over two years and having faced loss and trauma, returned to areas where basic social services had not fully resumed. Assessments also show that host communities are sliding further into poverty, further increasing tensions between IDPs and host communities. Moreover, early reports of 2024 indicate that sporadic attacks and fear of attacks by Non-state Armed Groups (NSAGs) have triggered new displacements.

Extreme weather events, climate change, conflict, and displacement, coupled with reduced humanitarian assistance, have exacerbated vulnerabilities in women and girls, often leading to harmful coping mechanisms such as survival sex and early marriages. While the 2023 Demographic Health Survey indicates a decrease in fertility rates over the past decade, dropping from 5.9 births per woman in 2011 to 4.9 births per woman in 2023, worryingly, adolescent fertility rates for those aged 15-19 increased from 29.3% in 2011 to 36% in 2023, with exceptionally high rates in Cabo Delgado (55.3%) and Niassa (52.3%).

The 2023 situation analysis for persons with disabilities in Mozambique outlines a pressing call for an inclusive and rights-based approach to bridge the significant challenges and systemic gaps faced by persons with disabilities across multiple sectors. Despite the 2017 Census identifying approximately 2.7% of the population as having a disability, the figure is likely higher due to underidentification linked to the census's medically oriented questions, highlighting a discrepancy with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) terminology. This misalignment

affects data accuracy and assessing service access and utilisation by persons with disabilities. Additionally, the Mozambican legal framework and policy setting show gaps in aligning with the CRPD, resulting in slow progress in enhancing the lives of persons with disabilities. Key challenges include inadequate policies for disability support services, limited technical and financial capacity within responsible ministries, and a lack of disability inclusion in development and humanitarian initiatives. Moreover, physical and information accessibility barriers, coupled with limited access to specialised rehabilitation and mental health services, further compound the challenges. The need for a more coordinated effort across ministries and enhanced partnerships to address these systemic barriers is evident, emphasising the urgency of a comprehensive strategy to ensure meaningful inclusion and participation of persons with disabilities in all aspects of society.



#### **ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION** AMID GLOBAL AND DOMESTIC **CHALLENGES**

In 2023, Mozambique's economy grappled with the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, compounded by global crises. Despite these challenges, the country is taking strides toward economic transformation, navigating through macroeconomic shocks and fiscal adjustments. Domestically, Mozambique also encountered an unforeseen macroeconomic challenge due to the Single Wage Bill, previously agreed with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) under the Extended Credit Facility (ECF), leading to a rapid increase in public spending, followed by liquidity shortages and significant budget contractions. This financial strain caused public sector salary payment delays, prompting a stringent fiscal adjustment for the 2024 budget, including hiring freezes and salary caps. Despite these challenges, Mozambique's entry into the Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) export market and strategic economic reforms, including creating a Sovereign Wealth Fund, signal a potential shift towards sustainable revenue management and economic diversification.

Mozambique has seen a significant rise in electricity access, from 32.1% in 2020 to 47.8% in 2023, marking progress towards the national electrification goals. The National Electrification Strategy aims for complete coverage by 2030, leveraging grid expansion and off-grid solutions to enhance accessibility. Renewable energy, especially from hydro sources, dominates the energy mix, contributing to a greener energy sector. Recent policy updates and fiscal incentives, such as VAT exemptions for energy equipment, are set to boost renewable energy adoption further, making clean energy more accessible and supporting sustainable development. However, access to clean energy and clean cooking remains a challenge in remote areas, particularly for IDP sites.

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# STRATEGIC POSITION TO SCALE UP CLIMATE ACTION AND CLIMATE FINANCE

Mozambique is highly vulnerable to climate change and losses, and the rainy season of 2022/2023 resulted in over USD 500 million in loss and damage, which includes the impact of the cholera outbreak. The combined impacts of interruption to essential services, unpredictable security conditions, and multiple hazardous events in the country have led to increasingly complex, mixed-mobility flows, resulting in the displacement of over 1.4 million individuals in Mozambique between 2017 and 2023.

The Strategy for the Integrated Information Flow System for Early Warning of Floods and Cyclones in Mozambique has already been a critical component as it improved the flow of information across the early warning system to facilitate decision-making. At the global level, Mozambique has played a significant role in the Early Warning for All Initiative. It was among the first countries to complete the National Gap Analysis for early warning systems. Mozambique also commenced the investment phase of the Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF), which aimed to enable Mozambique to gather and analyse improved climate information. With Mozambique being a country with a long track record in successfully absorbing ODA (USD 2.7 Bn in 2020) and already a recipient of mitigation finance (from REDD+), it is well positioned to benefit from the Losses & Damages fund discussed at the 28th meeting of the meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 28).



Mozambique is currently in an election cycle, with the 6th municipal elections on 11 October 2023 and the 7th presidential and legislative elections scheduled in a year on 9 October 2024. 4.8 million registered voters were eligible to participate in municipal elections, with women constituting 54% of the total. A total of 22 political parties, political party coalitions, and citizen groups competed across Mozambique's 65 municipalities, including 12 new municipalities, and approximately 1,700 members of Government were elected as Presidents of municipal

councils (mayors) and representatives of municipal assemblies. The Assembly of the Republic passed on 3 August 2023 a law to amend the Constitution so that district-level elections do not have to be held in 2024. The holding of elections in 2024 was part of negotiations surrounding the peace process. District elections have an essential impact on the decentralised governance model. They would allow all voters to influence their local governance structures since municipalities do not yet cover the entire territory and population.



# DEMOBILIZATION AND REINTEGRATION (DDR) PROCESS IS NEARING COMPLETION There have been consistent and significant successes throughout the implementation of the

THE DISARMAMENT,

There have been consistent and significant successes throughout the implementation of the Maputo Accord, particularly in 2023. One of the key highlights has been the completion of the disarmament and demobilisation phase of DDR following the closure of the final Renamo military base in June 2023. With this milestone, all 5,221 DDR beneficiaries (271 women and 4,950 men) have settled in communities across Mozambique and have begun their journey toward reintegration. In March 2023, a historic decree was passed that extends a pension to eligible women and men demobilised as part of the implementation of the Maputo Accord, and the first group of beneficiaries is already receiving their pension (as of November 2023, over 1,600 pensions have been approved, fixed and paid). Following these achievements, in early October 2023, the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General for Mozambique communicated that his good offices would conclude with technical implementation of reintegration and national reconciliation.

# EVOLUTION OF THE CONFLICT IN CABO DELGADO

In 2023, the conflict in Cabo Delgado saw a significant transformation, with the government and international forces reclaiming control from NSAGs, leading to a decrease in civilian attacks and making previously inaccessible areas reachable. This change facilitated the return of displaced populations and civil servants, though essential services have not fully resumed, and pockets of volatility remained. NSAGs adapted their strategies, focusing on gaining community acceptance through trade rather than violence, reflecting a shift toward winning hearts and minds. Despite a noticeable decrease in violence during the rainy season, the conflict displaced over 109,000 people in 2023, with peaks coinciding with military operations. The number of IDPs decreased for the first time since the conflict began in 2017, with more than 570,000 returnees by August 2023, against approximately

670,000 IDPs. Many returned to their areas of origin in northeastern Cabo Delgado, while a significant number remained in IDP sites and host communities. Despite these changes, thousands of IDPs and returnees remain vulnerable, facing the destruction of essential services, livelihoods, and markets, along with continued insecurity. The situation has led to pendular movements as families seek access to services and livelihoods, indicating that support will be crucial for returnees to rebuild their lives in 2024.

Notably, the northern provinces have witnessed the initiation of two fundamental recovery coordination mechanisms around the Cabo Delgado Province National Reconstruction Plan (PRCD) and the Northern Mozambique Resilience and Integrated Development Programme (PREDIN), both falling under the Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF). The recent establishment of the Provincial Coordination Structure for the PCRD presents an opportunity for enhanced government-led solutions in conflict-affected areas.



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Figure 1 - Alignment of Government Priorities, UNSDCF Outcomes and the SDGs

#### UNSDCF **Strategic Priority Area**

#### **Outcome**

#### PQG 2022 - 2024

#### **SDG**



Human

By 2026, more people, particularly the most vulnerable and marginalised, have a more equitable access to and utilisation of quality, inclusive, resilient, gender- and shock responsive social protection and essential social services.

#### **PRIORITY 1:**

Develop human capital and social justice





By 2026, more people, particularly women and youths, participate in and benefit from a more diversified, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth based on increased production, productivity, and greater value-added chains.

Boost economic growth productivity and job generation





By 2026, more people, especially the most vulnerable, are resilient to climate change and disasters, and benefit from more sustainable management of environment and natural resources and resilient infrastructures and human settlements, with positive effects on national GDP.

#### PRIORITY 3:

Strengthen sustainable management of natural resources and the environment





Human Rights and Incluse Governance

By 2026, more people, especially the most vulnerable and marginalised, are protected, enjoy their rights, and benefit from a secure, peaceful environment, enabled by inclusive governance systems, and independent and accountable institutions abiding by the rule of law.

#### PILLAR 1:

Strengthen democracy and national unity

#### PILLAR 2:

Promote good governance and decentralisation.

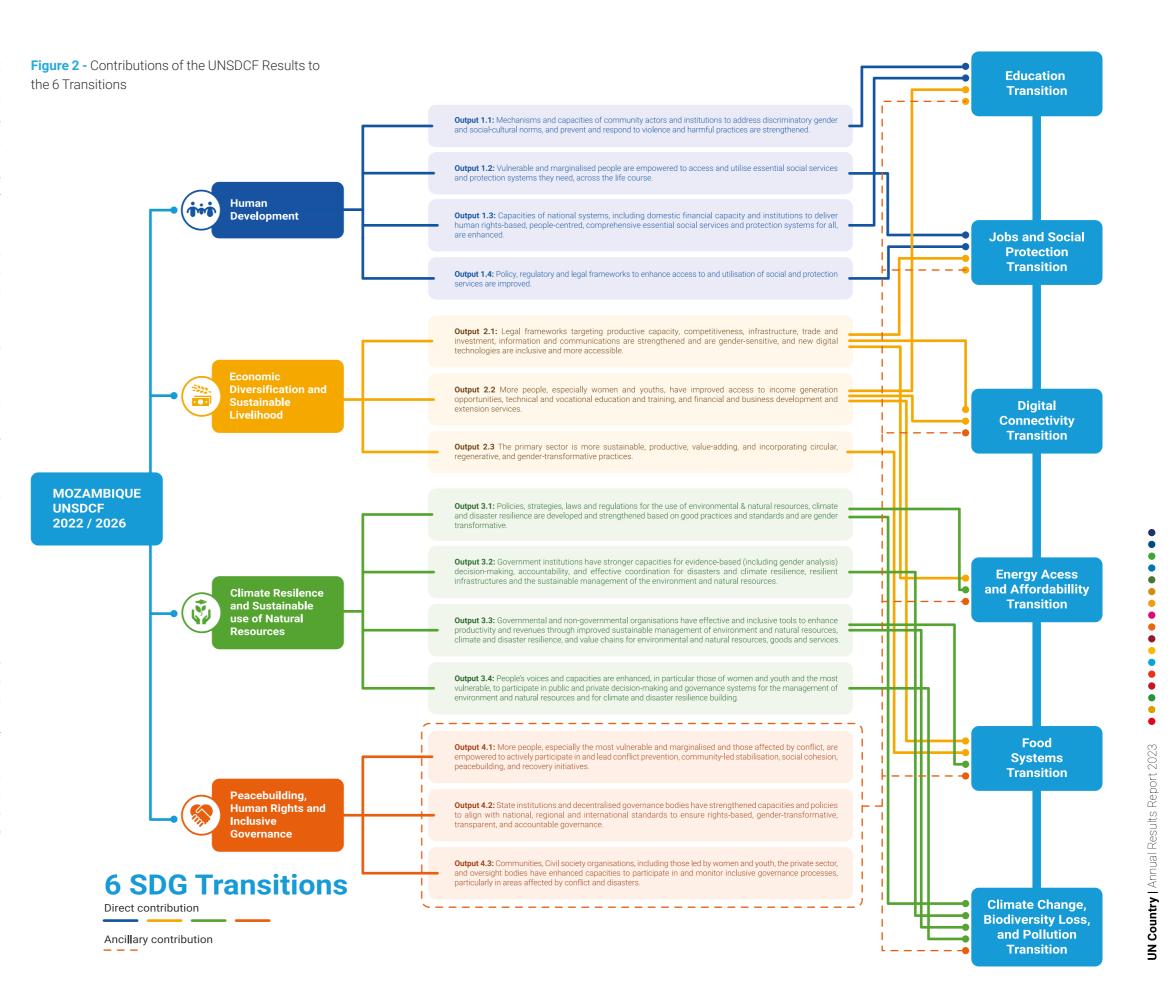


Strengthen international cooperation



In the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF), gender and human rights markers are used to evaluate how well different initiatives align with and support the goals of gender equality, women's empowerment, and human rights using a 0-3 scale. In comparison with 2022, it appears that there has been a notable change in the UN's approach. While the number of initiatives with a primary focus on gender has slightly decreased from 34% to 29%, and those on human rights have seen a slight increase from 18% to 19%, there is a more pronounced trend towards incorporating these priorities as significant goals within a larger array of initiatives. In 2023, initiatives with significant gender objectives jumped to 48% from 34%, and those for human rights surged to 61% from 35%. This indicates that these areas are being more consistently addressed across UN efforts. Additionally, there's a marked reduction in initiatives that were not rated against these markers, dropping to 8% for gender and 9% for human rights from the previous year's 18% and 34%, respectively. This trend points to a more integrated and effective inclusion of gender and human rights concerns in the UN's work in Mozambique.

In September 2023, the SDG Summit unveiled six pivotal transitions designed to expedite progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These transitions—encompassing food systems, energy access and affordability, digital connectivity, education, jobs and social protection, and tackling climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution—are rooted in the 17 goals. They represent transformative entry points with the potential for catalytic and multiplier effects across the 2030 Agenda. Identifying the relationships between the results of the UNSDCF, the primary instrument for providing a strategic direction for the UN development system in Mozambique, and the six transitions can help illustrate how targeted interventions contribute to broader systemic changes needed for sustainable development.



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#### 2.2. DETAILED ANALYSIS OF COOPERATION FRAMEWORK PRIORITIES, OUTCOMES, AND OUTPUTS

### **STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1**

#### **HUMAN DEVELOPMENT**

Boys are taking a brave stand against **Gender-Based Violence (GBV)** 

In the Sofala region, adolescent boys and young men, ages 13 to 20, meet several times a month to talk about tough issues—how they feel about gender, the pressures of early marriage, and the harm of acting tough in the wrong ways. They're learning to lead in new ways to make their communities better.

Cleiton Adriano, 14 years old and in the 9th grade, has big dreams for his school in Beira to be an inclusive space, free of GBV is one of 14-year-old Cleiton Adriano's dreams. The adolescent is in the 9th grade and leads awareness-raising activities with his peers. "Spreading positive messages about gender equality and the empowerment of girls has been one of my daily tasks at school,"

says Cleiton, as he points out that one of his greatest desires is to "become an agent of positive change in my community".

In August 2022, Cleiton Adriano was trained on GBV as part of a UN project to improve Reproductive, Maternal, and Adolescent Health in Sofala province, with funds from the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA).

Implemented by Consorzio Associazioni con il Mozambico with technical support from the Provincial Directorates of Education and of Health, in 14 schools, it promotes women's empowerment and contributes to positively changing male behaviour, attitudes and practices by involving boys and young men to respond to-and mitigate-GBV in their secondary schools.



I have engaged a few members to join the boys' club, and currently, I am proud to see their transformative changes in behaviour, actions, and mindset,...

noted Cleiton



Cleiton, a determined 14-year-old, leads the charge in transforming boys' attitudes towards GBV, fostering a culture of respect and equality.

Leonel and Benilton, both 10th graders and club members, have their own stories. Leonel remembers that he used to bully girls, but now, he's sharing what he's learned with his friends and neighbours: "After joining the sessions, I realized my misconceptions and now aim to share positive information with both my classmates and community, "commented Leonel.

Benilton shared that when he joined the sessions led by his facilitator, Cleiton, he changed his behaviour and currently his parents are very proud of him. "The sessions not only changed my life, but thanks to them I identified and helped to report cases of GBV in my community".

Together, these boys are showing that changing minds can start with a single voice, and a single club, that grows into a movement for good.

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#### PROGRAMMATIC RESULTS

Output 1.1: Mechanisms and capacities of community actors and institutions to address discriminatory gender and social-cultural norms, and prevent and respond to violence and harmful practices are strengthened.

- Institutional and Community Empowerment: A total of 11,600 institutional and community actors were strengthened to address discriminatory norms, prevent harmful practices, and provide socio-economic assets for women, marking progress towards the 2026 target of 20,000.
- Training of Service Providers: About 829 service providers received training to address harmful practices against children and adolescents and deliver comprehensive sexuality education, advancing towards the 15,000 goal.
- Government Officers' Capacity: The number of government officers with enhanced knowledge and capabilities to offer quality services, including GBV case management, reached 1,213, progressing towards the 2,500 target.

Output 1.2: Vulnerable and marginalised people are empowered to access and utilise essential social services and protection systems they need, across the life course.

- Access to Skills and Lifelong Learning **Programs:** Approximately 564,355 individuals benefited from improved access to skills and lifelong learning programs, inching closer to the ambitious target of 2,500,000.
- Antiretroviral Therapy Coverage: ART coverage for children aged 0-14 rose to 72.3% and for adults aged 15+ to 85.0% from 64% and 69% in 2020, respectively. Collectively, 85.8% coverage was achieved, moving towards the 95% target.
- Basic Sanitation Services: Around 880.832 people were reached with at least basic sanitation services, edging closer to the 910,000 goal.

- Food/Cash-based Transfers: The number of vulnerable and marginalised individuals benefiting from food/cash-based transfers reached 947,474, indicating progress towards the 1,034,320 target.
- Prevention and Management of Acute **Malnutrition:** A remarkable 6.380,213 children under five and pregnant and lactating women benefited from life-saving prevention and management of acute malnutrition, surpassing the set target of 3.7 million.
- Youth Empowerment Initiatives: 49 institutional and community initiatives were launched to facilitate youth empowerment, leadership, and participation, moving towards the target of 90.
- Access to Drinking Water Services: Access to at least basic drinking water services was expanded to 310,567 individuals, showing steady progress towards the 450,000 target.



Output 1.3: Capacities of national systems, including domestic financial capacity and institutions to deliver human rights-based, people-centred, comprehensive essential social services and protection systems for all, are enhanced.

- Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Access: Access to WASH facilities was expanded to 177 Health Centre Facilities and Schools, moving towards the 2026 target of 439.
- HIV Early Detection: 78.9% of children exposed to HIV received the first PCR test before two months of age, an increase compared to 71% in 2020, progressing towards the 2026 target of
- Social Security Enrolment: The data available for 2022 showed that 40 643 own-account informal workers were enrolled in the social security system managed by the National Institute of Social Security (INSS), a significant effort towards the target of 90,000.
- School Meals and Materials: Free school meals and/or learning materials/services were provided to 641,875 children and youth in selected schools, exceeding the 2026 target.
- Output 1.4: Policy, regulatory and legal frameworks to enhance access to and utilisation of social and protection services are improved.
- Social Protection Policies: Two new or revised national social protection policies were developed with UN support to extend coverage, enhance comprehensiveness, and increase the adequacy of benefits. INAS developed the Direct Social Support Programme-Post Emergency for anticipatory actions. On the contributory social protection subsystem, INSS approved, in

December 2023, the Strategic Plan of the National Social Security Institute 2024-2028 for expanding coverage of the private sector workers' social security scheme.

• SDG Indicators: The number of social sector indicators in Mozambique's national SDG indicator framework, with recent data available or published in the national statistics system, reached 88.

#### **CHALLENGES AND LESSONS LEARNED**

The challenges faced in 2023 underscored the multifaceted obstacles to human development in Mozambique. Cultural norms and attitudes can act as barriers to youth empowerment, disproportionately affecting adolescent girls and highlighting the need for gender-sensitive interventions. The security situation in Northern Mozambique, compounded by natural disasters such as Cyclone Freddy, disrupted access to health services, stressing the importance of resilient health systems and emergency preparedness.

Integrating evidence-based approaches into policy and program planning emerged as a critical lesson, underscoring the importance of enhancing partners' data analysis and utilisation capabilities. Reaching the most remote and marginalised communities with essential services through innovative solutions, like mobile and boat clinics, called for early ownership, sustained financial backing, and a strategic approach to resource mobilisation. Promoting localisation and forging solid partnerships with national NGOs and government entities were identified as crucial for delivering high-quality outcomes and facilitating swift responses to emergencies. Effective advocacy with lawmakers and decision-makers was instrumental in bolstering government commitments to social service delivery, marking a significant step towards achieving sustainable development goals.



# STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2 —

#### **ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION AND SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS**

# Mozambique's path to clean energy with something as simple as biogas

The UN through the Towards Sustainable Energy for all in Mozambique (TSE4ALLM) project has been actively involved in promoting biogas technology through various initiatives aimed at building capacity, fostering innovation, and facilitating market development

The UN collaborates with local partners to implement pilot biogas projects across different regions. These serve as demonstration sites to showcase the feasibility and benefits of biogas technology in rural and peri-urban communities. Technical support and financial assistance are provided to overcome

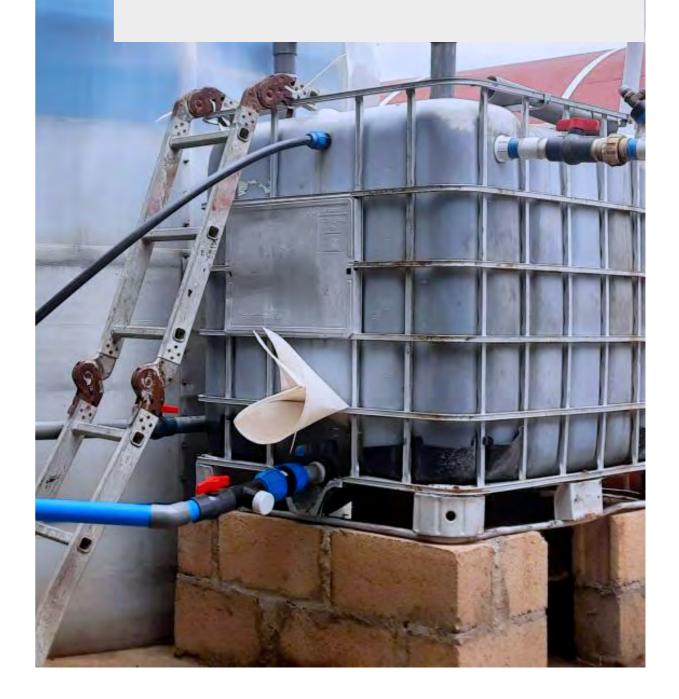
barriers to adoption and scale up successful models.

In 2023, the UN in partnership with CHARIS-Associação de Solidariedade Social, embarked on the process of the installation of simple, low-cost biogas plants for home and small business use in the coconut small businesses, cashew nut and cassava industries in the province of Inhambane province. The Josina Machel Cassava Processing Cooperative in Inharrime District produces 35,000 m3 (around 96 m3/day) of biogas for use in cooking (domestic, small, medium and large industries), refrigeration and lighting.



Successful biogas demonstration units have promoted interest in the community, and biogas adoption has become widespread. The early adopters will also gain experience and be able to promote the uses of Biogas and help other potential users

Larsen Candido, Founder, CHARIS Association

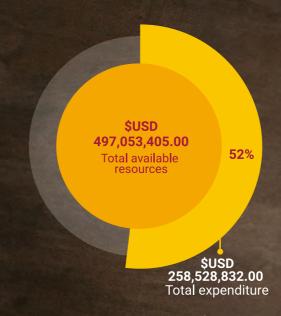


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#### OUTCOME

By 2026, more people, particularly women and youths, participate in and benefit from a more diversified, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth based on increased production, productivity, and greater value-added chains.



Available resources and expenditures for Strategic Priority 1 in 2023 by output, in USD<sup>9</sup>

#### Outputs 2.1



Outputs 2.2



Outputs 2.3



Mozambique's progress towards the 2026 outcome in 2023 showed mixed results and is considered off-track. The proportion of the population living below the national poverty line remains high, indicating the country is off track in reducing monetary and multidimensional child poverty. The multidimensional poverty rate showed only a slight improvement from 55% in 2014/15 to 53% in 2019/20. This highlights the need for intensified efforts to address poverty.

Conversely, the proportion of the population with access to electricity has seen notable progress, reaching 47.8%, slightly above the 2026 target of 47.5%. This indicates effective strides in expanding electricity access across Mozambique.

However, the unemployment rate has increased for both men and women, from 17.40% and 17.70% in 2020 to 18.7% and 18.1%, respectively. This move further away from the 2026 targets indicates that the country is off track in reducing unemployment. This underscores the challenges in job creation and the need for strategic interventions.

#### **PROGRAMMATIC RESULTS**

**Output 2.1:** Legal frameworks targeting productive capacity, competitiveness, infrastructure, trade and investment, information and communications are strengthened and are gender-sensitive, and new digital technologies are inclusive and more accessible.

• Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprise (MSME) Policy Enhancement: three policies were developed or enhanced to support MSMEs with business sector input and UN support, aiming towards a 2026 target of 22. One new regulatory framework relevant to agri-food systems and private sector development was

developed to manage highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) outbreaks in Mozambique, with a goal of six frameworks by 2026.

- Digital System Adoption: Sectoral entities adopted two management information systems, progressing toward the 2026 goal of implementing three systems. In particular, MADER piloted the Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS), which provides relevant market information to value chain actors and links the supply and demand of agricultural commodities and services.
- Digital Skills Expansion: Six government institutions and CSOs were trained to use digital technologies, surpassing the 2026 target of four.

**Output 2.2** More people, especially women and youths, have improved access to income generation opportunities, technical and vocational education and training, and financial and business development and extension services.

- Climate-Smart Training: 61,270 people, including members of Community-Based Organisations (CBOs), CSOs, and business associations, were trained on climate-smart agri-food systems and circular economies, moving toward the ambitious target of 368,750.
- Private Sector Boost: capacity building and support were provided to 2,302 private sector entities, including MSMEs, working towards a significant increase to 63,520 by 2026.
- Income Generation: 100,159 people benefitted from income-generating activities with UN support, with a target of 224,850.



## **STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3**

#### CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES

#### Fostering policy reform for sustainable biodiversity conservation in Mozambique

Biosphere Reserve is the first world biosphere reserve in Mozambique. Located in Cabo Delgado province, in the north of the country, the site consists of 11 islands, a combination of marine parks and a freshwater system including the Montepuez river and Lake Bilibiza, a bird sanctuary. The islands support 3,000 floral species, of which 1,000 are endemic, and a rich fauna that includes 23 species

of reptiles, 447 species of birds and 46 species of terrestrial mammals including four of the "big five" (elephant, lion, buffalo and leopard), as well as eight species of marine mammals including whales and dolphins. The main economic activities are fishing, animal husbandry, tourism, arts and crafts and sea transport.





In response to the Government of Mozambique's challenges regarding the sustainable management of the Quirimbas Biosphere Reserve, with financial support from the Italian Government, the UN supported the development of the Management and Business Plan for the Quirimbas Biosphere Reserve 2023-2032. This tool was produced following the global strategy under the "Man and the Biosphere" and its Lima Plan of Action as a way to address the need for protecting biodiversity and improving ecosystem services, fostering community development and the sustainable use of natural resources.

Front cover of the Management and Business Plan for the Quirimbas Biosphere Reserve 2023-2032.

© UNESCO Mozambique, 2023

#### **TESTIMONY**

The Quirimbas Biosphere Reserve will contribute to the implementation and success of the Agenda 2030 and the African Union's Agenda 2063, and community development is for that ...

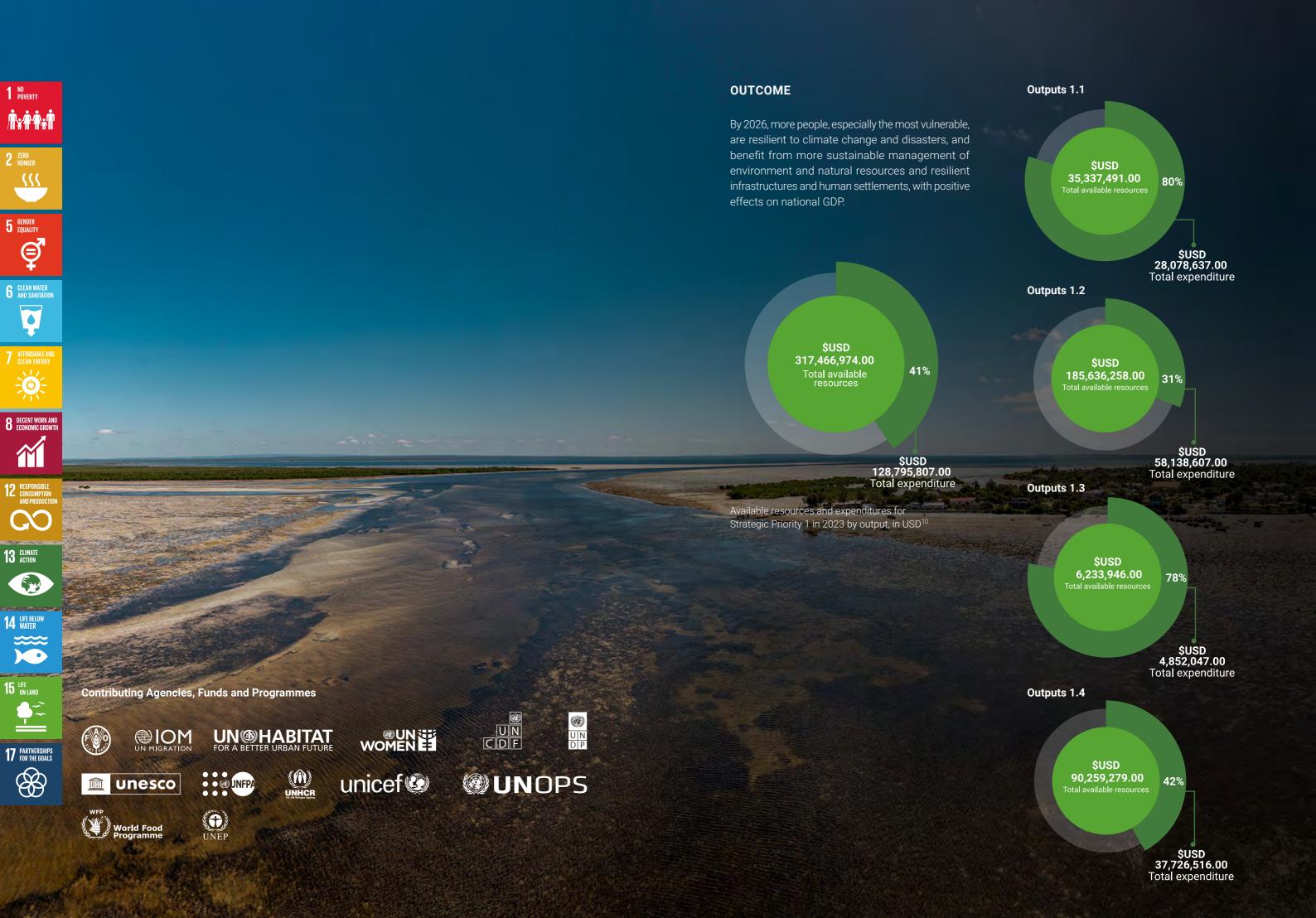
Ivete Maibaze, Minister of Land and Environment



Her Excellency Ivete Maibaze, Minister of Land and Environment, on the launch of the Quirimbas Biosphere Reserve Management and Business Plan 2023-2032. © UN Mozambique

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In 2023, commendable strides were made towards achieving the outcome of this strategic priority area, in particular with integrated water resources management and protected marine area coverage. The degree of integrated water resources management increased to 66%, moving closer to the 2026 target of 67%, demonstrating the country's commitment to managing its water resources more effectively. Furthermore, the coverage of protected areas concerning marine areas reached 6.5%, doubling the 2026 target of 3%.

However, the number of land user rights issued increased to 1,792,657, marking a partial progression towards the ambitious 2026 target of 3,365,727. This highlights the need for intensified efforts in land rights distribution to meet future goals.

Data for indicators related to direct economic losses attributed to disasters, sustainable forest management, trends in land cover, land productivity, carbon stocks, and the number of people benefitting from implementing actions from Adaptation and Resilience Plans were not updated in 2023. This lack of data updates underscores the importance of strengthening monitoring and reporting mechanisms to track progress better and inform policy decisions.



#### PROGRAMMATIC RESULTS

Output 3.1: Policies, strategies, laws and regulations for the use of environmental & natural resources, climate and disaster resilience are developed and strengthened based on good practices and standards and are gender transformative.

- Policy Development: Work on enhancing nationally determined contributions under the Paris Agreement has progressed, signalling an ongoing commitment to global climate agreements. In particular, the MTA was supported in developing the NAP (National Adaptation Plan), submitted in 2023. Progress is aligning with the 2026 expectations.
- Inclusive Policies: 14 of the targeted 28 national and sector policies were developed, showcasing an ongoing effort to integrate environmental, climate, and social considerations. This puts the initiatives on a strong path towards their 2026 goal.

**Output 3.2:** Government institutions have stronger capacities for evidence-based (including gender analysis) decision-making, accountability, and effective coordination for disasters and climate resilience, resilient infrastructures and the sustainable management of the environment and natural resources.

- Climate Preparedness: Nine out of the 11 provinces targeted are implementing sectoral climate preparedness activities, nearing the 2026 target.
- Crisis Response Assessment: Completing 18 out of the targeted 68 assessments highlights an initial step towards improved crisis management but indicates a need for accelerated efforts to meet the 2026 goals.

• Local Adaptation: 11 out of 69 targeted local adaptation and city resilience plans have been implemented, suggesting a foundational step towards local resilience yet underscoring the necessity for increased focus to meet future targets.



- Output 3.3: Governmental and nongovernmental organisations have effective and inclusive tools to enhance productivity and revenues through improved sustainable management of environment and natural resources, climate and disaster resilience, and value chains for environmental and natural resources, goods and services.
- Value Chain Access: Achieving access for 7 out of 8 value chain actors marks substantial progress and nearly reaches the 2026 target.
- **Producer Support:** Support for 1,361 of the targeted 2,182 producer groups represents significant progress. It demonstrates impactful assistance to agricultural and fisheries communities to enhance sustainability and productivity.

Output 3.4: People's voices and capacities are enhanced, in particular those of women and youth and the most vulnerable, to participate in public and private decision-making and governance systems for the management of environment and natural resources and for climate and disaster resilience building.

- **Community Empowerment:** 36,118 people are engaged in sustainable resource use initiatives, which requires further expansion to reach the ambitious 2026 target of 128,705.
- **Disaster Recovery:** The assistance provided to 158,397 people underscores substantial support to vulnerable populations towards recovery and productivity. This progress is crucial, though continuous efforts are necessary.
- Risk Management: Establishing 50 of the 172 targeted local risk management committees is foundational to enhancing community-based risk management.

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• Infrastructure Improvement: The significant number of 853,543 individuals gaining access to improved infrastructure services represents promising progress towards the substantial target set for 2026 of over 5 million.

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#### CHALLENGES AND LESSONS LEARNED

The challenges faced in 2023 underscored the complex interplay between socio-political dynamics, natural disasters, and the need for technological adaptation within Mozambique's developmental context. The electoral cycle occasionally hindered the timely development and approval of crucial normative instruments, highlighting the intricate relationship between governance processes and developmental initiatives. Conflict in the north, alongside natural disasters, significantly impeded assessment efforts, thereby affecting ongoing activities and complicating access to beneficiaries. This situation was further exacerbated by the existing digital skill gaps at both national and local levels, limiting the use of advanced technological tools for thorough assessments. Moreover, the involvement of multiple partners in support efforts sometimes led to duplicated efforts and complicated coordination mechanisms.

Reflecting on these challenges, several lessons were learned, emphasising the necessity of a balanced approach to policy development, the critical importance of strengthening national coordination architecture, and integrating urban policy considerations into broader strategic frameworks. The varied capacities and interest levels across different regions called for a targeted approach to capacity building at the local level. Engagements with the private sector emerged as a vital component for the sustainability of interventions, implying a strategic pivot towards fostering more private sector partnerships. The recognition of the benefits that could be derived from carbon market regulations pointed towards the need for regulatory frameworks that could leverage financial opportunities. Furthermore, the identification of increased synergies with NGOs, local CSOs, and other partners, especially in support

of the National Institute for Disaster Management, highlighted the importance of fostering coordination to prevent duplication of efforts and enhance the effectiveness of local risk management committees, including collaboration with the World Bank. This collaborative approach, extending to Local Adaptation Plans and contingency planning, is poised to enhance the responsiveness and efficiency in disaster preparedness and climate adaptation efforts.



#### **STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4**

#### PEACEBUILDING, HUMAN RIGHTS AND INCLUSIVE GOVERNANCE

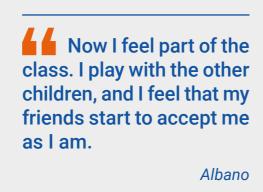
#### Demystifying albinism taboos in communities

Persons with albinism face critical challenges which affect their aspirations, needs and concerns, and hope for social inclusion in development initiatives. Capacity building of various stakeholders, including government, civil society, women organizations and network, police officers, community leaders, journalists, teachers and midwives, combined with awareness-raising/public information campaigns through traditional, modern and social media, such as the International Albinism Awareness Day, International Day for Disability, International Human Rights Day among other dates is helping community leaders and members to find ways of making our society inclusive of persons with albinism.

communities, but they often feel left out. They tell us, "We are first humans before albinism. We want to be socially included in community activities, but because of albinism, we suffer a lot of rejection from peers, friends and even family members."

People with albinism want to be involved in their

Albano's story is a powerful example. He's 8 years old and in third grade. he speaks of the sting of discrimination at school and the sentiments of exclusion within the community—a testimony shared by his mother. Yet, after the multi-sectoral awareness initiatives in his school and community, he's seen a change. Now he says:

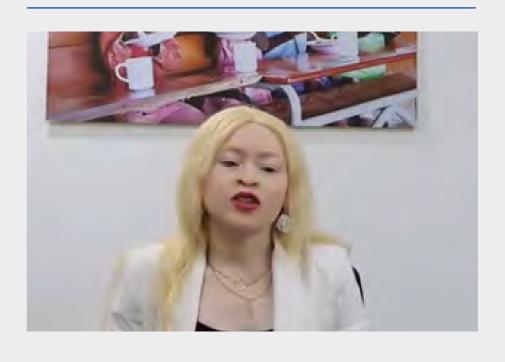




Even with progress, there's more work to do. Dra. Adelina Patricio Afonso, a judge in Pemba City, says that while many with albinism are doing better, old myths still cause them harm. She emphasizes:

Unfortunately, our communities are very fond of mystical beliefs that continue to put people with albinism at risk. There is an urgent and permanent need to continue with actions to demystify albinism in our communities.

Dra. Adelina Patricio Afonso



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In 2023, significant strides were made in advancing peacebuilding, Human Rights and inclusive governance in the country, addressing gender equality and reducing human trafficking within Mozambique, as evidenced by the progress in key outcome indicators. The proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments and local governments increased to 42.8% and 37.6%, respectively, reflecting a positive trajectory towards the 2026 targets of 45.2% and 36.8%, marking this indicator as on track. The country achieved the CF target for the percentage of districts with fully functioning courts, reaching 96% against a 2026 target of 90%, demonstrating a commitment to improving access to justice. Additionally, efforts to combat human trafficking have seen the number of victims per 100,000 population decrease to 0.03 overall and 0.04 for women, signalling significant progress towards the 2026 goal of having no victims, indicating that this indicator is also on track.

These achievements underscore Mozambique's ongoing commitment to enhancing gender equality, strengthening the judicial system, and eradicating human trafficking, albeit with areas still requiring data updates and continued focus to ensure all targets are met by 2026.

#### PROGRAMMATIC RESULTS

**Output 4.1:** More people, especially the most vulnerable and marginalised and those affected by conflict, are empowered to actively participate in and lead conflict prevention, community-led stabilisation, social cohesion, peacebuilding, and recovery initiatives.

- Legal Identity Registration: In 2023, 829,603 new individuals were registered with legal identity through UN support, enhancing access to legal identity.
- Peacebuilding Engagement: 8,943 people were engaged in peacebuilding policy-making, participatory planning, and the management of neighbourhood/resettlement sites, progressing towards a target of 77,500 by 2026.
- Gender Norms and GBV Prevention: 3,897 local leaders and influential people contributed to changing gender social norms and preventing GBV and other human rights abuses in conflictaffected communities, surpassing the target of 2,534.



Output 4.2: State institutions and decentralised governance bodies have strengthened capacities and policies to align with national, regional and international standards to ensure rights-based, gender-transformative, transparent, and accountable governance.

- Addressing Discriminatory Norms: With the support of the UN, 16 national or subnational mechanisms were established to address discriminatory gender and social norms, stereotypes, practices, and power relations related to gender equality and women's empowerment.
- Planning and Budgeting Training: Nine provincial governments were trained in the new planning and Budgeting System for 2022 PESOE, including child-relevant planning and budgeting instruments.
- Governance Capacity Building: 89 capacitybuilding activities were implemented for government institutions to improve meaningful rights-based, gender transformative, transparent, and accountable governance, moving towards an ambitious target of 1,868 by 2026.
- Result-Based Planning Knowledge: 778
   government officials enhanced their knowledge
   and capacity on result-based planning and
   budgeting with UN support, aiming for a goal of
   2,800 by 2026.
- **GBV Service Providers Training:** 383 government GBV service provider staff were trained in GBV case management, tracking well towards a 2,013 target.
- Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)
   Monitoring: 40 state institutions received
   capacity-building to monitor the implementation
   of the CRC concluding observations, the National
   Action Plan on Albinism, and the Universal
   Periodic Review (UPR) recommendations.

 Public Participation Mechanisms: 21 state entities at central and subnational levels developed functioning mechanisms with the support of the UN for public participation, including women, children, and adolescents, in planning, budgeting, and monitoring processes, achieving well beyond the target of 11 by 2026.

**Output 4.3:** Communities, Civil society organisations, including those led by women and youth, the private sector, and oversight bodies have enhanced capacities to participate in and monitor inclusive governance processes, particularly in areas affected by conflict and disasters.

- Governance Process Training: 89 CSOs were trained to participate in, monitor, and report on governance processes and human rights violations, particularly regarding those left furthest behind, especially in areas affected by conflict and disasters, exceeding the target of 34.
- **Protection Mechanism Training:** 1,930 government officials, local leaders, and community members were trained on refugees and IDP protection mechanisms to strengthen the protection environment, surpassing the target of 3,474 when cumulated with 2022 results.
- Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) Agenda Monitoring: 125 CSOs have been trained to monitor and report on the implementation of the WPS and the Youth, Peace, and Security Agenda in Mozambique, as well as human rights violations, including attacks against persons with albinism. This achievement doubles the targeted outcome of 30 by 2026.
- Gender Focal Points Training: 67 (11 men) individuals work as gender focal points within the security and defence forces and peace processes. This progress is on track towards the 2026 target of 150.

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#### LINK TO OTHER PRIORITIES/PLANS IN THE COUNTRY

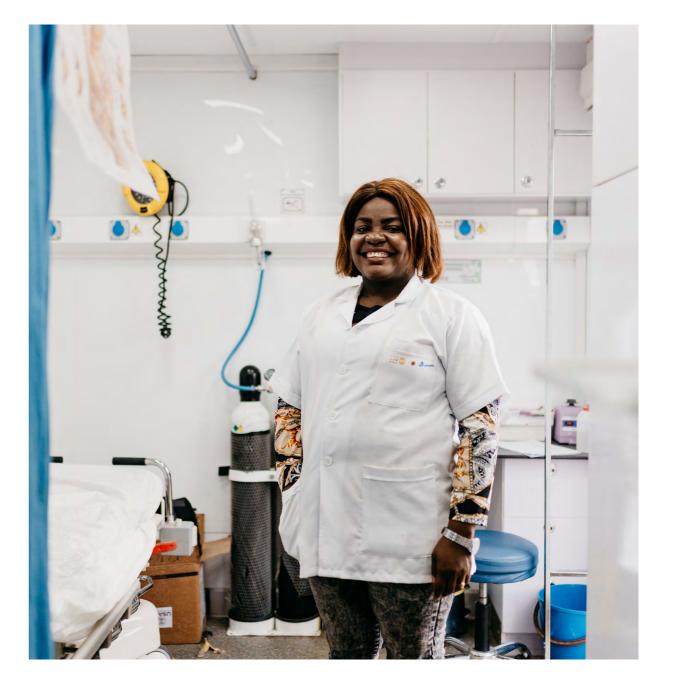
Initiatives to reach the results outlined in the UNSDCF do not exist in isolation. As such, the UN has been committed in 2023 to building synergies and shared pathways that amplify the impact of individual projects and programmes:

- Enabling Mozambique's engagement on the global stage for the SDGs: Mozambique shared its challenges and efforts at the 2023 SDG Summit. Aligned with the UNSDCF priorities, The President spoke about hurdles like the COVID-19 pandemic, climate issues, and conflicts affecting their SDG progress. They stressed that nations need to trust and help each other. The President highlighted Mozambique's peace efforts, fighting terrorism in Cabo Delgado, and asked for international help with climate change, especially after cyclones hit. Regarding energy, Mozambique advocated for a fair shift to new energy types, hoping for more global funds for climate projects. They also talked about their conservation laws and actions, like taking care of forests in the Miombo area and their wish to collaborate with other countries. In preparation for the summit, the UN assisted the government in identifying high-impact initiatives.
- **Humanitarian action:** At least two million people in northern Mozambique needed lifesaving and life-sustaining humanitarian assistance and protection in 2023 in Cabo Delgado, Nampula and Niassa due to the impact of armed conflict, violence and insecurity in the region. In 2023, the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) in northern Mozambique appealed for US\$513 million to target 1.6 million people. Between January and November, approximately 1.5 million people in the north of Mozambique received humanitarian assistance, including food. However, outside of food interventions, the number of people reached is only one million. At the end of November 2023, the HRP was 36% funded, receiving approximately \$184.3 million. An additional \$50.8 million has been received outside the HRP framework.
- · Advancing Human Rights: Mozambique participated in the high-level event in Geneva in December, commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), organised by OHCHR. During this event, Member States were encouraged to commit to pledges enhancing the promotion and protection of human rights. Mozambique stepped forward with commitments encompassing the establishment of an OHCHR Office in Mozambigue early in 2024, the ratification of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights along with its Optional Protocol, and the Convention on Enforced Disappearances in 2024. Additionally, Mozambique plans to adopt a National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights in the second half of 2024, work towards ensuring that the National Human Rights Commission aligns with the Paris Principles, and conduct consultations with a wide range of stakeholders to align national legislation with international human rights standards, particularly concerning counter-terrorism, nonprofit organisations, and the rights of persons with disabilities.
- Enhancing disability inclusion: in 2023, Mozambique was awarded a grant by the UN Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD), marking a significant step towards enhancing disability inclusion within the country. This initiative started with an induction phase that included a training session in March, a comprehensive situational analysis report by June, and the finalisation of a project proposal in October. The project, collaboratively implemented by three UN Agencies over 24 months with a \$600,000 budget, was designed through an inclusive process engaging key government ministries, mainly the Ministry of Gender, Children, and Social Action (MGCAS) and the Ministry of Justice, Constitutional and Religious Affairs (MJCRA), as well as various Organisations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs) including FAMOD. With the UNPRPD Secretariat's approval in December 2023, the project is set to launch in January 2024. Its goals are ambitious, aiming to align national laws with the CRPD, empower

the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) as a monitoring body, enhance the capabilities of government disability inclusion focal points, develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) with a focus on girls with disabilities, and initiate a pilot survey by the Statistics Office incorporating the Washington Group questions, among other significant activities.

· Strengthening collective answers to disasters: Cyclone Freddy's dual strikes on Mozambique in late February and again in mid-March 2023 marked a profound challenge.

In response, the Mozambican government sought a comprehensive Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) to gauge the extent of the devastation. Undertaken using the established protocol set forth by the UN, the World Bank, and the European Union, the assessment involved eight agencies in partnership with government sectors to gather and analyse data. Their efforts painted a stark picture: damages amounting to US\$ 502 million and losses totalling US\$ 200 million. The roadmap to recovery, embracing the principles of rebuilding better, is estimated to need 602 million USD.



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#### 2.3 SUPPORT TO PARTNERSHIPS AND FINANCING THE **2030 AGENDA**

This section explores the efforts and strategies in place to enhance partnerships and collective action taken with partners to align with and support the nation's goals, the forward momentum in addressing climate change imperatives, finding durable solutions and empowering women as cornerstones of sustainable development:

#### **FOSTERING DURABLE SOLUTIONS FOR IDPS**

Mozambique is one of 15 countries leading the way under the UN Secretary-General's Action Agenda on Internal Displacement. The UN Solutions Working Group (SWG), set up in 2022, continued coordinating efforts to find lasting solutions for those displaced within the country. This group has outlined a joint roadmap, articulating the UN's support for the Government of Mozambique's actions, including sharing resources, programme support, and technical expertise. In anticipation of visits by UN figures, the SWG was instrumental in preparing government counterparts. These efforts led to a successful visit catalysing the INGD and the MEF's commitment to a "solutions plan" for IDPs. The SWG continues to provide support to refine this plan and is instrumental in developing the Action Plan for the Internal Displacement Management Strategy and Policy, as requested by INGD. The UN's joint proposal for the IDP Solutions Fund will bolster the government's capacity to address

internal displacement. Additionally, the SWG has worked with the government to develop a set of indicators to track progress toward solving internal displacement in Mozambique, adding a vital social cohesion component.

#### COMMITMENT TO ADVANCE WOMEN **PEACE AND SECURITY AGENDA**

In 2023, the Government of Mozambique, with representation from The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation and MGCAS, took a prominent stand at the Security Council in New York. On March 7th, coinciding with the 67th Commission on the Status of Women and marking the 25th anniversary of UN Resolution 1325, they presided over and contributed to an Open debate on Women, Peace, and Security. This significant event showcased Mozambique's achievements and ongoing efforts in fulfilling its national Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) commitments. With the UN's support, the Open debate became a pivotal platform for Mozambique to highlight the current WPS situation within the country, drawing greater international focus and resources towards enhancing women's participation in the WPS agenda. This forum increased awareness about gender-related issues in conflict situations among influential political decision-makers, guiding and informing the International Conference on Peace and Security held in Maputo in December 2023.



#### **CONVENING PARTNERS IN SUPPORT OF NATIONAL PRIORITIES**

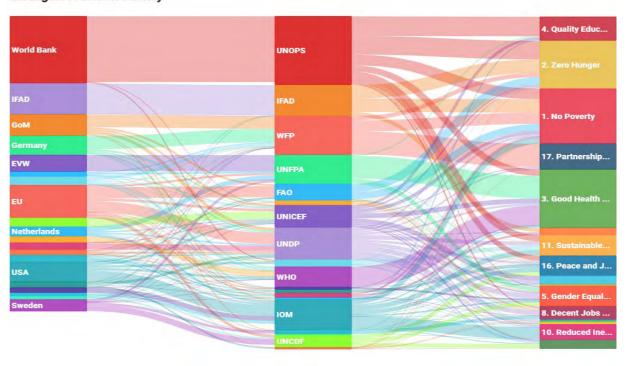
The DCP is critical for conversation and cooperation between Mozambique's government and those supporting the country's development. The UN plays a crucial role in leading and supporting the work of the DCP, with the RC as the co-chair and the secretariat of the DCP hosted by the RC Office. In 2023, the DCP met with the Ministry of Finance, and its position as a platform focused on sharing information and updates on progress or challenges in key development sectors, sharing plans, and discussing shared policy messages was acknowledged.

#### ADVANCING THE CLIMATE CHANGE **AGENDA**

In 2023, the Ministry of Land and Environment led a pivotal dialogue on Mozambigue's climate action plan following the outcomes of COP28 in Dubai. The government reaffirmed its dedication to tackling crucial areas such as mitigation and energy transition, funding strategies for climate change, adaptation methods, addressing losses and damages, utilising carbon markets, and integrating gender, empowerment, and science and technology. Together with the UN and other development partners, the government underscored a collective pledge to persist in collaborative efforts to combat climate change, with the UN supporting the government's lead in this global challenge.

Figure 3 - Leveraging UN Investments to advance the SDGs<sup>12</sup>

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#### 2.4 RESULTS OF THE UN WORKING MORE AND BETTER **TOGETHER**

In 2023, the UN continued to seek to enhance collaboration, efficiency, and inclusiveness. Significant strides were made to optimise operations, embrace inclusivity, uphold safeguarding standards, and champion gender equality, all of which reinforce the United Nations' commitment to supporting Mozambique's development goals in alignment with the 2030 Agenda.

- The Mozambique Business Operations Strategy (BOS) 2021-2027 aims to enhance cost-effectiveness, quality, and efficiency in UN operations and program delivery through collaboration on 35 common services across six service lines, including Administration, Finance, Human Resources, Information and Communications Technology, Logistics, and Procurement. These services are either implemented jointly or by one UN entity on behalf of others, based on comprehensive Opportunity and Cost-Benefit Analyses. The 2023 BOS review revealed a significant cost avoidance of USD 1.9 million, surpassing the anticipated benefit of USD 1.3 million and marking the highest cost avoidance to date. The trend is expected to continue into 2024, with a projected cost avoidance of USD 2.2 million, particularly in Common Administration Services. In 2024, Working Groups will introduce new services focusing on areas such as Joint UN ICT Emergency response, Gender and Disability inclusive procurement, and disability-inclusive conferences, enhancing impact towards the SDGs.
- In 2023, the UN in Mozambique moved forward with the UN Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS) introduced in 2019 to support Member States in achieving the 2030 Agenda and implementing the CRPD. This strategy focuses on fostering systemic and sustainable disability inclusion

within the Organisation. The initiation of the UNDIS in Mozambique, marked by the early rollout phase, involves strategic action based on the UN Country Team (UNCT) Disability Inclusion Accountability Scorecard. A comprehensive work plan for 2023-2024 was established, focusing on important areas such as leadership, strategic planning, accessibility, joint programming, and the capacity building of UN staff regarding disability inclusion. A key initiative outlined in the work plan is targeted training sessions for UN personnel, scheduled for early 2024. These inperson and online sessions enhance awareness, understanding, and competencies related to disability inclusion among UN staff, including senior management and those in programmatic and technical roles.

 PSEA Networks are in place at national and Cabo Delgado levels to support prevention and response to sexual exploitation and abuse. They are co-chaired by a UN and INGO representative and are composed of agency/ organisational focal points under the overall leadership of the Humanitarian Coordinator. A full-time Inter-Agency PSEA Coordinator should be in place in 2024 to provide technical support to the humanitarian community and the PSEA Networks. In 2023, the PSEA Network was one of the two countries that piloted an Inter-Agency Risk Assessment on SEA (IARA SEA), based on which a unified global methodology was developed. It had a national scope, emphasising provinces with significant operational presence of organisations, such as Nampula and Cabo Delgado. The IARA SEA zoomed in further on Cabo Delgado due to the presence of a largescale humanitarian response that further exacerbates SEA risks in this region. The assessment recognised that Mozambique has made considerable progress in mainstreaming



PSEA within government policies and structures, including by enacting laws that prohibit and punish SEA. It also highlighted heightened risks linked to processes overseen by community-level actors and displacement settings.

 The UNCT has been improving collaboration within UN entities and between the UN and external partners towards gender mainstreaming, effectively contributing to greater gender equality and women's empowerment in Mozambique. In 2023, UN staff from different interagency groups (PMT, GTG and MERG) participated in a capacity-building exercise on UN accountability tools for Gender. This was an opportunity to foster constructive dialogue on changes needed

within the UN and across its engagement with government and civil society to effectively mainstream gender equality throughout the implementation of the Cooperation Framework. Implementing the UNCT-SWAP Gender Equality Scorecard for the third consecutive year has been paramount in identifying areas that require a more substantial commitment from the UNCT. The results of the 2023 assessment showed a 14% increase from 2022 in the indicators of positive performance, meeting the 60% UNCT-SWAP global threshold. In particular, positive ratings were achieved for communication and advocacy, engagement with the government and CSOs, gender parity in staffing and the gender coordination mechanism.

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#### 2.5 EVALUATIONS AND LESSONS LEARNED

In response to the 2022 annual results report afteraction review findings, the UNCT in Mozambique embarked on a comprehensive effort to refine and strengthen its results framework. This initiative was prompted by several challenges with output indicators, notably concerning the definition, baseline, and target setting. Recognising the critical importance of a robust results framework in guiding our interventions and assessing our impact, it was imperative to address these issues promptly and effectively. This process coincided with the DCO's directive to integrate a minimum of 15 indicators from the new global Output Indicator Framework. The PMT's ownership underscored the importance of this endeavour in strengthening our ability to measure progress effectively and make informed decisions based on reliable data.

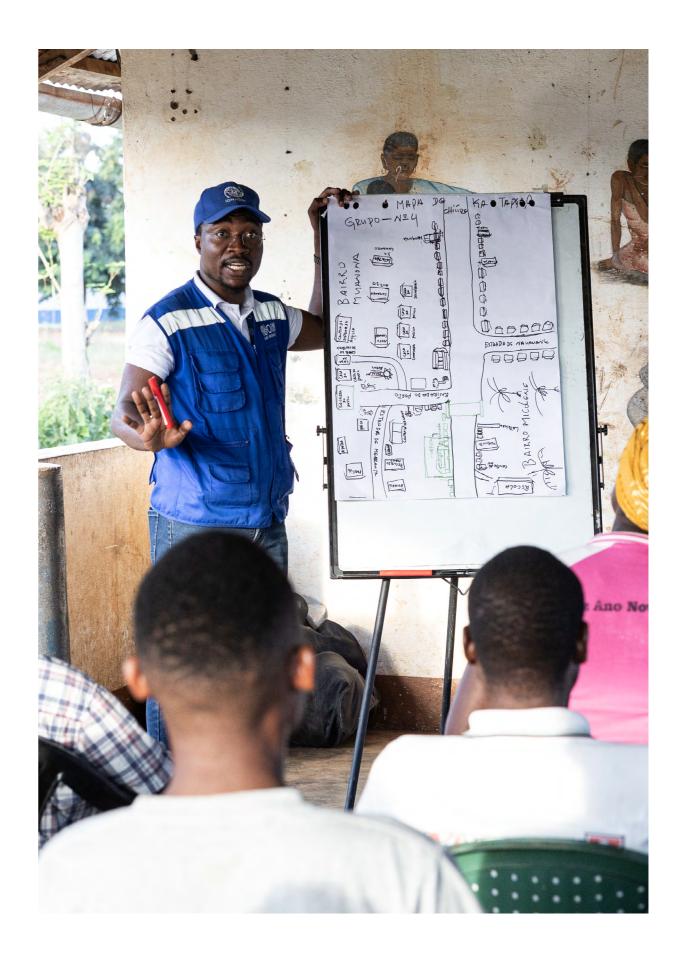
Under the guidance of MERG and technical support from the Strategic Priority groups, selected indicators were integrated into the UNSDCF results framework, entailing the inclusion of the indicators themselves and the development or contextualisation of methodological notes to provide clarity and context. These methodological notes serve as essential reference points, ensuring consistency in data collection, analysis, and reporting methodologies. A total of 15 indicators were seamlessly integrated into the results framework, aligning monitoring and evaluation practices with global standards. Additionally, seven indicators were rephrased to enhance clarity and precision, ensuring that they accurately reflect the intended outcomes of the interventions, and six indicators were removed.

This already translated into concrete enhancements in data collection and reporting in 2023. It significantly bolstered the capacity of the United Nations and the Government of Mozambique to engage in evidence-based discussions, facilitating more precise monitoring, evaluation, and strategic planning across its strategic priorities. Notably, there was an increase in reported indicators at

both the outcome and output levels compared to 2022, illustrating a tangible improvement in data reporting and utilisation. While the outcome level depends on data collection and analysis processes largely outside the UN control, reporting 15 outcome indicators (against 2 in 2022) provides a clearer picture of progress. At the output level, 2023 data was generated for 85% of the indicators (76% in 2022). This reporting cycle highlighted the need to ensure that the methodology for some indicators is appropriated better by contributing agencies and the need to set new targets for 2026 in line with the evolving context.

The improved data quality enabled discussions at the joint meeting of strategic priority groups with government counterparts in March 2024 focused on the progress of 2023 within the Cooperation Framework. On that occasion, Government officials highlighted that the results from the UNSDCF presented a promising direction. Despite the notable performance across strategic priorities, it was agreed that outcome-level results need sharpening for thorough success. Challenges discussed encompassed gender disparities, urban-rural gaps in education and service delivery, and pressing flagship issues. The significance of integrated interventions to tackle these challenges, alongside addressing investment disparities, sanitation needs, and the impacts of emergencies like Cyclone Freddy, cholera, and polio, was acknowledged.

Lessons learned jointly identified highlighted the essential role of gender-focused focal points and monitoring, the benefits of emergencies in expanding vaccination and infrastructure resilience planning, the increased readiness of government institutions to handle emergencies, and the critical nature of community and beneficiary inclusion for meeting objectives. The necessity of enhancing the collaboration between the UN and the government sector and addressing the gaps in high-level result data was recognised.



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#### 2.6 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

**Table 2 -** Resources required, available and spent in 2023 for the implementation of the UNSDCF by Strategic Priority Area, in USD<sup>13</sup>

Strategic Priority	Required Resources 2023	Available Resources 2023	Expenditures 2023	Execution Rate
Human Development	159,382,21	208,411,849	160,387,221	77%
Economic Diversification and Sustainable Livelihoods	144,293,626	134,849,346	103,033,35	76%
Climate Resilience and Sustainable use of Natural Resources	99,532,777	100,264,342	83,277,494	83%
Peacebuilding, Human Rights and Inclusive Governance	127,879,328	113,258,669	93,479,922	83%
Total	531,087,948	556,784,206	440,177,988	79%

**Table 3 -** Resources required, available and spent for the implementation of the UNSDCF in 2023 by UN Agency, Fund and Programme, in  $USD^{14}$ 

Agency	Required Resources 2023	Available Resources 2023	Expenditure 2023
IOM	105,024,821	106,105,388.00	86,630,141.00
UNOPS	78,038,704	82,635,474.00	82,286,778.00
WFP	84,677,928	77,850,174.00	39,404,494.00
WHO	6,675,716	64,495,496.00	64,495,496.00
UNDP	75,152,499	55,555,110.00	44,873,814.00
UNICEF	58,548,364	49,434,007.00	49,415,229.00
IFAD	34,907,049	34,907,049.00	14,692,614.00
FAO	25,170,775	23,696,058.00	17,863,375.00
UNCDF	1,025,000	12,450,000.00	11,075,000.00
UNFPA	11,421,937	11,256,166.00	10,354,913.00
UN Habitat	11,032,373	10,582,373.00	2,052,755.00
UNODC	5,050,000	6,124,115.00	4,537,487.00
UNIDO	3,075,264	5,629,103.00	392,865.00
UNHCR	14,750,210	4,293,117.00	4,293,117.00
ILO	3,759,000	4,066,136.00	3,759,000.00
UN Women	9,026,129	3,952,262.00	650,400.00
UNESCO	2,635,469	2,635,469.00	2,535,179.00
UNAIDS	1,116,710	1,116,709.00	865,331.00
OHCHR	-	-	-
UNECA	-	-	-
UNEP	-	-	-



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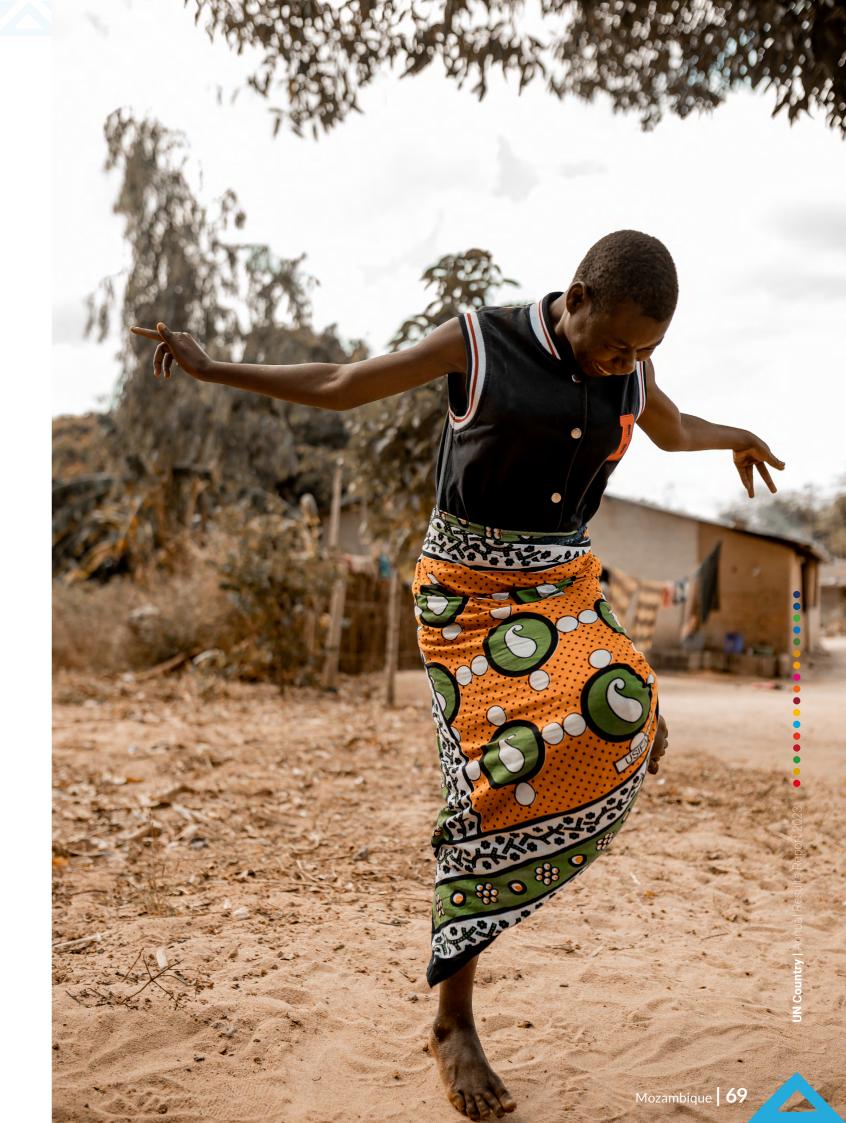
As we move into 2024, the UN Country Team in Mozambique remains steadfast in its commitment to supporting the country's journey towards the SDGs. Our collective efforts will continue to focus on critical areas that underpin sustainable development and inclusive growth, as outlined in the six pivotal transitions defined at the 2023 SDG Summit: food systems, energy access and affordability, digital connectivity, education, jobs and social protection, and tackling climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution.

As Mozambique approaches its electoral milestones, the UNCT will extend its support to ensure free, fair, and peaceful elections, reinforcing democratic governance and civic participation. It will continue to aim to support electoral administration bodies in education and capacity building, collaborate with NGOs for the inclusion of persons with disabilities, integrate human rights into police training programs, and raise awareness for the political empowerment of women. It will also support the implementation of the digital platform for identifying fake news,

disinformation, and misinformation, eMonitor+, launched for the first time in a Lusophone country.

In preparation for the "Summit of the Future" in September 2024, we will engage in dialogues about what needs to change at the global level to catalyse a sustainable and inclusive future for all Mozambicans. The upcoming Voluntary National Review (VNR), scheduled for 2025 and in which the UN will be supporting the preparations this year, provides an invaluable opportunity for Mozambique to showcase progress and set the stage for accelerated actions towards the 2030 Agenda.

The path ahead is challenging but filled with opportunities. By fostering collaboration, leveraging our collective strengths, and remaining adaptable to the changing environment, we can support Mozambique in achieving its developmental aspirations and paving the way for a sustainable and prosperous future.



# **Acronyms**

<u>cso</u>	Civil Society Organisation
DCP	Donor Coordination Platform
ENDE	Estratégia Nacional de Desenvolvimento- National Development Strategy
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GREPOC	Office for Post Cyclone Reconstruction
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HRP	Humanitarian Response Plan
ІСМ	Instituto de Cereais de Moçambique- Cereal Institute of Mozambique
IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural  Development
ILO	International Labour Organisation
INAS	Instituto Nacional de Acção Social- National Institute of Social Action
INGD	Instituto Nacional de Gestão de Calamidades-National Disasters Management Institute
INNOQ IP	Instituto Nacional de Normalização e Qualidade-National Institute for Standardization and Quality
INE	Instituto Nacional de Estatistica-National Institute of Statistics

INS	Instituto Nacional de Saúde-National
	Institute of Health
INSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development
	Cooperation Framework
INSEJE	Secretaria de Estado da Juventude e
	Emprego-State Secretariat for Youth and
	Employment
IPC	Integrated Food Security Phase
	Classification
KOICA	Korea International Cooperation Agency
LNG	Liquefied Natural Gas
MADER	Ministério da Agricultura e
	Desenvolvimento Rural-Ministry of
	Agriculture and Rural Development
MAEFP	Ministério da Administração Estatal e
	Função Pública-Ministry of State
	Administration and Public Service
MDN	Ministro da Defesa Nacional-Ministry of
	Defence
MEF	Ministério da Economia e Finanças-
	Ministry of Economy and Finance
MGCAS	Ministério do Gênero, Criança e Acção
	Social-Ministry of Gender, Children and
	Social Action
MIMAIP	Ministério do Mar, Águas Interiores e
	Pescas-Ministry of Sea, Inland Waters and
	Fisheries
MINEC	Ministério dos Negócios Estrangeiros e
	Cooperação-Ministry of Foreign Affairs
	and Cooperation

MINEDH	Ministério da Educação e Desenvolvimento
	Humano-Ministry of Education and
	Human Development
MINT	Ministério do Interior-Ministry of Interior
MINTESS	Ministério do Trabalho, Emprego E
MINTEGO	Segurança Social-Ministry of Labour,
	Employment and Social Security
MISAU	Ministério da Saúde-Ministry of Health
MITADER	Ministério da Terra, Ambiente e
	Desenvolvimento Rural-Ministry of Land,
	Environment and Rural Development
MJRC	Ministério da Justiça, Assuntos
	Constitucionais e Religiosos-Ministry of
	Justice, Constitutional and Religious
	Affairs
MPOPRH	Ministério das Obras Públicas, Habitação e
WPOPKII	Recursos Hídricos-Ministry of Public
	Works, Housing and Water Resources
	works, Flousing and water resources
MPTF	Multi-Partner Trust Fund
PEGDI	Política e Estratégia de Gestão de
	Deslocados Internos-Strategic Plan for
	Management of Internal Displacement
PGR	Procuradoria-Geral da República-Office of
	the Attorney General
PQG	Plano Quinquenal do Governo-Five-Year
	Government Programme
PREDIN	Programa de Resiliência e
	Desenvolvimento Integrado do Norte de
	Moçambique-Northern Mozambique
	Resilience and Integrated Development
	Programme

PSEA	Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SEA	Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
SEJE	Secretaria de Estado da Juventude e
	Emprego-State Secretariat for Youth and
	Employment
SETSAN	Secretariado Técnico de Segurança
	Alimentar e Nutricional-Technical
	Secretariat for Food Security and Nutrition
TS	Tribunal Supremo de Moçambique-
	Supreme Court
UN	United Nations
UN PRPD	UN Partnership on the Rights of Persons
	with Disabilities
UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlement
	Programme
UNAIDS	United Nations Joint Programme on HIV
OITAIDO	and AIDS Secretariat
UNCDF	United Nations Capital Development Fun
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific an
	Cultural Organisation
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development
	Organization
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
UNU-WIDER	UN University World Institute for
	Development Economics Research
UNSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development
	Cooperation Framework
UNSDG	United Nations Sustainable Development
	Group
UPR	Universal Periodic Review
USD	United States Dollar
WASH	Water, sanitation and hygiene
WFP	United Nations World Food Programme
wно	World Health Organization
	-
WPS	Women, Peace and Security

# **Endnotes**

- Data extracted from UN-Info XXXX 2024 (un-info.org).
- 2 Sachs, J.D., Lafortune, G., Fuller, G., Drumm, E. (2023). Implementing the SDG Stimulus. Sustainable Development

Report 2023. Paris: SDSN, Dublin: Dublin University Press, 2023. 10.25546/102924

- 3 Instituto Nacional de Estatística (INE) e ICF. 2023. Inquérito Demográfico e de Saúde em Moçambique 2022–23.
- 4 Data extracted from UN-Info March 22, 2024 (uninfo.org).
- 5 Data extracted from UN-Info March 22, 2024 (uninfo.org).
- 6 Data extracted from UN-Info March 22, 2024 (uninfo.org).
- 7 Data extracted from UN-Info March 22, 2024 (uninfo.org).
- 8 Data extracted from UN-Info March 22, 2024 (uninfo.org).
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