

# Support to Forcibly Displaced Persons and Host Communities in Northern Mozambique – Nexus Norte

GIZ and UNHCR are implementing the Nexus Norte project in the Northern provinces of Mozambique to improve the living conditions of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Refugees, and members of the Host Communities (HCs). This project is implemented in the framework of the SUN Global Programme, an initiative by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) that provides support to UNHCR to facilitate the operationalization of the Global Compact on Refugees in the Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDP) Nexus.

## Background

The Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) calls on the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to facilitate “a coherent humanitarian and development response”. This can only succeed if humanitarian and development actors make efficient use of their capacities and leverage their complementary advantages for the most effective response in displacement contexts. To this end, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) commissioned the Global Programme “Support to UNHCR in facilitating the operationalisation of the Global Compact on Refugees in the Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDP) Nexus” (GP SUN) in 2018. The programme is implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH in cooperation with the UNHCR and aims to support the UN refugee agency in facilitating the GCR’s operationalisation in the HDP Nexus. GP SUN currently implements projects with UNHCR in displacement settings globally (Ethiopia, Kenya, Mauritania, Mexico, Niger, Rwanda, Uganda and Mozambique), provides advisory services, and supports UNHCR in consolidating and analysing lessons learned on the GCR’s operationalization in the HDP Nexus.

## The Context

As of August 2023, Mozambique hosts approximately 30,000 refugees and asylum seekers and more than 850,000 IDPs. The country faces multiple humanitarian crises, including armed conflict and the devastating impacts of cyclical extreme weather events, creating

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS		5 GENDER EQUALITY	8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES	16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS
Project name	Nexus Norte				
Commissioned by	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)				
Political partner	Mozambican Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation (Ministério dos Negócios Estrangeiros e Cooperação – MINEC)				
Implementing partner	Agency for Integrated Development of the North (Agência de Desenvolvimento Integrado do Norte – ADIN)				
Implementing agencies	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH and United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)				
Project region	Selected districts in Nampula and Cabo Delgado provinces				
Duration	May 2022 – December 2024				
Budget	GIZ: 6,500,000 EUR UNHCR: 6,000,000 EUR				

social instability, insecurity and public health risks. Tropical cyclones, such as the recent Freddy I and II in March 2023, have left immeasurable destruction of infrastructure and affected the lives of millions of Mozambicans in the Northern and Central provinces.

The province of Cabo Delgado in Northern Mozambique has been affected by a violent conflict since October 2017 with recurring attacks on the civilian population by Non-State Armed Groups (NSAGs) causing forced displacement across all Northern districts. This insecurity led to the displacement of more than one million persons, in a volatile security situation, accompanied by heightened socioeconomic needs across the three Northern Provinces Cabo Delgado, Nampula and Niassa. As of August 2023, there has been further population movement with the return of around 550,000 people to often devastated places of origin with limited access to protection and basic services.



Photo left: Lucie Songa, 11, reads a schoolbook outside her family's home at Maratane refugee settlement.

Photo middle: Displaced youth attending a plumbing TVET course in Pemba (Cabo Delgado Province).

Image right: Northern Provinces of Mozambique (Cabo Delgado and Nampula)

## The Nexus Norte Project

The objective of the Nexus Norte project is to improve the living conditions of people in displacement situations (including Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), refugees and members of the host population) in selected communities in Northern Mozambique, with a specific focus on women and youth. By applying multi-stakeholder and responsibility-sharing principles to a refugee and internal displacement setting and fostering increased collaboration between humanitarian, development, and peacebuilding actors, Nexus Norte provides important lessons learned and contributes to international dialogue on HDP Nexus.

UNHCR and GIZ are collaborating to best serve humanitarian needs, while building lasting solutions to forcibly displaced communities and their hosts. The project benefits from GIZ's technical expertise, its well-established ties and long-standing relations with the Government of Mozambique. It also benefits from UNHCR's institutional expertise on protection, solutions and forced displacement, its field-based operational presence across Northern Mozambique including in underserved and conflict-impacted areas, and UNHCR's community-based approach. By combining humanitarian and development approaches, the project ensures not only that life-saving needs are being met but also that longer-term, government-led solutions are being developed.

## Project Implementation

Implementation runs from May 2022 to December 2024, with the Mozambican Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation (MINEC) as political partner and the Integrated Development Agency of the North (ADIN) as the key implementing partner. The geographical scope of the project is selected districts in the Cabo Delgado Province (Ancuabe, Balama, Mecufi, Metuge, Montepuez, Mueda and Pemba) and in the Nampula Province (Erati, Meconta, Memba, Moma, Mossuril, Nampula Rapale, Nampula-city and Nacala-Porto).

## Project Activities

To improve living conditions and social cohesion in Northern Mozambique, it is crucial to ease the pressure on host communities, by strengthening the socio-economic self-reliance of refugees, IDPs and host communities alike. In addition, the service delivery of government agencies needs to be strengthened to enable the provision of quality services. Five intervention areas aim at achieving the following goals:

- 1. Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET):** Capacity Needs Assessment & Capacity Development Plan to be implemented for TVET institutions, support the acquisition of mobile training units to national TVET institution, assisting the Institute of National Employment (INEP) to deliver career guidance services and training to IDPs.
- 2. Income generation:** Conduct a labour market analysis to match vocational courses to market needs, support Cash for Work activities, train youth and women on the development of entrepreneurship skills and provide coaching and mentoring support through incubators.
- 3. Social cohesion:** Strengthen capacities of community leaders through training support and improving service delivery by government authorities in a conflict-sensitive manner.
- 4. Improved access to protection services:** Conduct a gender analysis to mainstream gender equality throughout social protection services, train community leaders in the prevention and response of gender-based violence (GBV), delivery methods for social cohesion and GBV protection services, mental health and psychosocial support and civil registration, as well as the establishment of integrated centres for community engagement and accountability to enhance GBV prevention.
- 5. Support to Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus coordination:** Strengthen the awareness of development actors for displacement contexts through supporting the engagement of government, international agencies and UNHCR for aligned coordination and service delivery, as well as the capacity development & design of a communication strategy of ADIN for enhanced long-term HDP coordination.

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