

**UNICEF MOZAMBIQUE  
ANNUAL REPORT 2020**

## CONTENTS

<b>PREFACE</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>UPDATE ON THE CONTEXT &amp; SITUATION OF CHILDREN</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>MAJOR CONTRIBUTIONS &amp; DRIVERS OF RESULTS</b> .....	<b>9</b>
The COVID-19 pandemic .....	9
UNICEF global strategic plan goal areas .....	14
Strengthening integrated and inclusive programming .....	17
Humanitarian action - our core mandate .....	18
<b>LESSONS LEARNED &amp; INNOVATIONS</b> .....	<b>21</b>
<b>UNITED NATIONS COLLABORATION &amp; OTHER PARTNERSHIPS</b> .....	<b>24</b>
<b>FINANCIAL FIGURES &amp; STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS</b> .....	<b>28</b>



*In response to the multiple crises, UNICEF continued supporting key initiatives to promote child survival, development, well-being and protection.*



UNICEF Mozambique Representative Maria Luisa Fornara met children who have been displaced by conflict in the 25 Junho Camp, in Metuge, Cabo Delgado Province.

## PREFACE

2020 was an exceptionally difficult year for children in Mozambique. Just months after Tropical Cyclones Idai and Kenneth – two of the most powerful storms to ever hit the continent – devastated huge swaths of central and northern Mozambique, the country faced a fast-spreading COVID-19 pandemic, amidst a rapidly deteriorating and brutal conflict in Cabo Delgado Province.

Over 230,000 children were forced to flee their homes due to violence and insecurity in the north, and millions of children stopped going to school because of nationwide COVID-19 closures. The economic impact of COVID-19 was especially harsh on the poor, who represent 46 per cent of the population<sup>1</sup> and were already struggling to meet children’s basic needs.

In response to the multiple crises, UNICEF continued supporting key initiatives to promote child survival, development, well-being and protection. Our staff quickly adapted to the constantly changing operational modalities imposed by COVID-19, while working tirelessly to support vulnerable children in Mozambique.

From the onset of the national state of emergency, UNICEF supported the Government in its work to curb the spread of COVID-19, and to alleviate the secondary impacts of the pandemic on children. In Cabo Delgado, UNICEF scaled up its work to bring protection and assistance to children in desperate need.

<sup>1</sup> Mozambique Ministry of Economy and Finance (2016). “Pobreza E Bem-Estar Em Moçambique: Quarta Avaliação Nacional. (IOF 2014/15).

Despite the extraordinary challenges, our collective work in 2020 produced important positive results for children. These results were achieved through close partnerships with Government at central and local levels, sister United Nations agencies, civil society organisations, and bilateral and multilateral partners.

Looking ahead to 2021, we remain cautiously optimistic that the pandemic will subside, that peace will prevail, and that the economy will recover.

As we celebrate UNICEF's 75th anniversary, we reflect on how we will continue to adapt in order to meet the needs of children and young people. Post-pandemic recovery must rise to the challenge by working across generations to reimagine a new future for children in Mozambique. 2020 has made clear that recovering from the multiple impacts of COVID-19 will require significant additional investment in children and youth.

2021 will be a year of intensive consultation as we develop our next five-year cooperation framework for 2022-2026. Our efforts to support the Government in its work to address the needs of the most vulnerable children will continue and grow, building on 45 years of partnership.

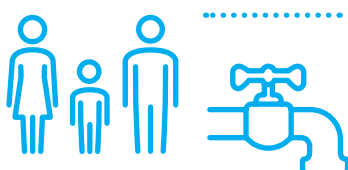
Together, we can and must continue to build a better, safer, healthier and more peaceful Mozambique.

*Maria Luisa Fornara*  
Representative, UNICEF Mozambique

**2.5 million**



young children  
received  
essential  
health services



**284,471**  
people access to safe water



**US\$17 million**  
lifesaving  
COVID-19 supplies

---

In 2020, UNICEF support enabled more than 2.5 million young children to receive essential health services and 284,471 people to gain access to safe water. We facilitated the procurement of US\$17 million in lifesaving COVID-19 supplies; strengthened infection prevention and control through improved WASH facilities in 17 isolation centres; reached some 12 million people monthly with Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE).

UNICEF supported distance learning and the development of safe school reopening guidelines; the expansion of critical social protection systems and the release of more than 2,800 children from care institutions and overcrowded prisons, as part of efforts to prevent COVID-19.

By declaring Cabo Delgado a Level-2 emergency, UNICEF strengthened and scaled up its humanitarian response for children.

---



## UPDATE ON THE CONTEXT & SITUATION OF CHILDREN

For the approximately 10 out of 14 million children of Mozambique who were already living in poverty, the multiple crises in 2020 pushed them into greater vulnerability, further jeopardizing their basic rights. Just one year after two consecutive tropical cyclones devastated parts of Mozambique, the country confronted the global COVID-19 pandemic and the increasingly complex armed conflict in Cabo Delgado.

Responding to COVID-19 took precedence this year. While Government-imposed measures helped contain the spread of the virus, the restrictions had significant socio-economic impacts. Equally, the security situation in Cabo Delgado Province directly affected the economy as well as investments in the country, especially the liquified natural gas sector.

Children were particularly affected by the nationwide school closure, impacting 8.5 million students. Despite efforts by Government and partners to support distance learning, most students, especially at primary school level, did not have access to distance education. Prolonged school closures with limited access to distance learning will impact school performance and learning outcomes of children in Mozambique. Although some schools reopened in the last quarter for some grades, most primary and pre-primary students could not return to classrooms because schools did not meet the minimum requirements for safe reopening in time.

Escalating conflict and insecurity in Cabo Delgado resulted in mass displacements. According to the IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) data, over half a million people were internally displaced by the end of 2020, and the majority were women and children. Non-state armed groups carried out violent attacks against civilians and destroyed infrastructures in Cabo Delgado that led to disruption of essential services including health facilities, water supply systems, boreholes, and schools. In addition to violence and displacement in the region, there was also a fatal cholera outbreak in Cabo Delgado and Nampula Provinces. All these factors contributed to the dire situation of people who had been impacted by recent climatic shocks.

Despite the challenging fiscal environment, the Government prioritized investments in the social sector to implement the COVID-19 pandemic response. The four strategic sectors for child wellbeing experienced significant increases in their revised 2020 budgets mainly due to support by international financial institutions. Budget allocation for the education sector increased by 1.5 per cent, the health sector by 32.6 per cent, water and public works by 48 per cent, and the social action sector witnessed the largest increase of 150 per cent in support of the social protection response plan.





## MAJOR CONTRIBUTIONS & DRIVERS OF RESULTS

UNICEF continued to spearhead results for children despite the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic. In total, UNICEF implemented a budget of US\$97 million out of which approximately US\$13.3 million corresponded to UNICEF's global Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) appeal to tackle COVID-19 and around US\$6.5 million within UNICEF's HAC appeal for Cabo Delgado.



UNICEF provided hygiene materials to health care facilities and safe school hygiene kits to schools to help prevent COVID-19.

### COVID-19 PANDEMIC

**The COVID-19 pandemic** influenced every aspect of UNICEF programming. The direct and indirect impacts of the pandemic exacerbated the vulnerabilities of children in Mozambique and negatively affected already weak basic services and socio-economic systems. The primary focus of UNICEF's action was to ensure that health systems were able to respond by supporting the Ministry of Health to prevent and treat cases while safeguarding the continuity of essential health services. The UNICEF response was aligned with the 2020 World Health Organization (WHO) Global Strategic Response Plan, the Mozambique Humanitarian Response Plan and the 2020 UNICEF Humanitarian Action for Children Appeal for COVID-19.

Aligned with the United Nations Multisectoral Response Plan to COVID-19, UNICEF supported the Government to alleviate the negative impacts of the pandemic, extending beyond the health sector. UNICEF concentrated on traditional child-focused workstreams such as continuity of essential services, protecting children from harm, response to socio-economic challenges, community resilience, and transversal themes including gender and disability.

Within the health sector, UNICEF served as a member of the core COVID-19 coordination group with WHO, the World Bank (WB) and Spain, to support the Ministry of Health's national plan. UNICEF contributed directly through medical supply investments and infrastructure improvements for treatment and isolation centres. Community health workers, whose roles expanded this year to include prevention messaging, were at the core of the response and UNICEF provided personal protective equipment to ensure safe continuity of services. In addition, Ministry of Health guidelines for infant and young child feeding practices within the COVID-19 context were developed.

UNICEF supported the Ministry of Health to develop and implement an immunization recovery plan and a response strategy to ensure continuity of essential health services. An analysis on the impact of disruptions in essential services on maternal and child mortality was also conducted together with WHO and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). UNICEF also collaborated with WHO and the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunizations (GAVI) to support the Ministry of Health in preparation for the introduction of the COVID-19 vaccine as part of the COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access initiative, known as COVAX.

UNICEF and USAID co-chaired the procurement working group and supported the development of a procurement tracker for sector partners to monitor implementation of the Ministry of Health's supply plan. UNICEF facilitated the procurement of personal protective equipment, test reagents, laboratory equipment and oxygen concentrators worth US\$17 million for the Ministry of Health and partners such as the World Bank, Pro-Saúde, The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFTAM), Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunizations (GAVI) and USAID.



UNICEF and the European Union handed over a shipment of essential personal protective equipment (PPE) to the Ministry of Health to support the government's response to the COVID-19 outbreak in the country.



UNICEF provided hygiene materials to health care facilities and safe school hygiene kits to schools to help prevent COVID-19.

In addition, UNICEF co-led the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) sub-group within the Government's COVID-19 health coordination structure, creating linkages between the traditional WASH humanitarian cluster and the health sector for infection, prevention and control (IPC) interventions at health, education and other public facilities. This work resulted in the development and dissemination of national COVID-19 IPC guidelines and materials for health care facilities and the rehabilitation of WASH infrastructure in targeted facilities leading to improved WASH in 17 isolation centres.

UNICEF also provided hygiene materials to health care facilities and safe school hygiene kits to schools. A strong collaboration with UN-Habitat, WHO and other partners was established to keep municipal markets open during the pandemic by developing technical guidance and creating an urban task force for coordination between municipalities. Additionally, UNICEF provided support to keep centralized water systems functional as water payments declined due to pandemic restrictions.

UNICEF co-led the Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) coordination group with the Ministry of Health, guiding national and sub-national plans on prevention practices. Technical and financial support was provided to national and local radios to broadcast prevention messages in local languages reaching some 12 million people monthly through radio and other communication platforms. UNICEF, the World Bank and the Ministry of Health collaborated on rapid knowledge, attitudes, and practices (KAP) phone surveys to understand risk perception and compliance with recommended behaviours. Additionally, polls were conducted using the digital U-Report<sup>2</sup> platform to voice opinions and concerns of adolescents and youth during the pandemic.

<sup>2</sup> U-Report is a social messaging tool and data collection system developed by UNICEF to improve citizen engagement, inform leaders and foster positive change.

Within the education sector, UNICEF was the COVID-19 response lead and coordinated with partners to mobilise technical, financial and human resources to support the Ministry of Education develop and implement the national sector plan. UNICEF and partners supported the Ministry in mobilising US\$15 million from the Global Partnership for Education, channelled through UNICEF, and led the development of safe school reopening guidelines. UNICEF also strengthened learning continuity by supporting the production of radio and television education programs and the training of teachers on distance learning. At the policy level, evidence-based advocacy led by strategic partnerships with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), WHO, the World Food Programme (WFP), the World Bank and other partners contributed to the reopening of schools.

UNICEF and the Government of Sweden co-chaired the COVID-19 social protection partner working group to support the expansion of critical social protection systems to mitigate the socio-economic impact of the crisis on vulnerable families. This led to joint action with the Government to develop and implement a COVID-19 social protection response plan to reach approximately one million families with unconditional cash transfers and nearly 500,000 beneficiary families of existing national social protection programmes with additional payments. UNICEF partnered with WFP to support implementation of the government social protection response plan in two selected provinces, reaching nearly 100,000 beneficiary families.

For child protection, UNICEF supported the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Affairs in releasing 1,198 children from care institutions to avoid COVID-19 infections, and the Ministry of Justice in releasing 1,688 children and youth from overcrowded prisons. Service continuity was also supported by providing personal protective equipment and hygiene materials for essential staff and children accessing services. Child protection referral telephone numbers were reactivated in all districts, birth and death registrations were kept operational, and global guidance ensuring access to justice during the pandemic was adopted by the Government.



A strong collaboration with UN-Habitat, WHO and other partners was established to keep municipal markets open during the pandemic.



## TELESCOLA IS HELPING ME TO CONTINUE STUDYING AT HOME SO THAT I CAN CONTINUE WORKING TOWARDS ACHIEVING MY DREAM



MAPUTO, Mozambique – “We miss our teachers, they were really nice and helped us solve our exercises, but with the coronavirus we need to adapt and learn to solve our exercises alone at home,” said 17-year-old Alzira Ngomane. Alzira is joined by her 14-year-old brother, Amilcar Ngomane, in the neighbourhood of Albazine, in Maputo City. Since their school was closed in March 2020 as a preventive measure due to the COVID-19 pandemic, they are now studying at home using the Telescola television education programme from the national television station, Televisão de Moçambique (TVM).



17-year-old Alzira Ngomane, and her 14-year-old brother Amilcar Ngomane, study at home using the Telescola television programme since their schools closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Every afternoon from 3 pm, Alzira and Amilcar place their notebooks on the small wooden table in their living room and turn on their television to accompany the lessons transmitted by the national television station, TVM. They both recognize that it is not the same as being in a classroom with their classmates, and despite the short 30-minute lesson, they manage to remember some subjects and do their exercises.

Alzira is in Grade 12 at Escola Secundária Eduardo Mondlane, and dreams of becoming a civil engineer. Her school closed six months ago when the Government of Mozambique declared the State of Emergency due to the novel coronavirus. “I try to maintain a routine while at home. I wake up and do my house chores, then I study with the Telescola. Without the Telescola, it would be difficult to understand the subjects and solve the exercises. The teachers who participate in the Telescola clarify many of my questions, and I manage to do the homework they give at school and understand the subject better,” Alzira said.

“At school it was easier to get answers to my questions because we had the teacher there, but at home it’s more difficult to study and concentrate. My dream is to be an architect, because I like to draw. And I know that I need to go to school in order to achieve my dream in the future, and with the schools closed, the Telescola is helping me to continue studying at home so that I can continue working towards achieving my dream,” Amilcar said.

To support learning continuity of children during the school closure, UNICEF, with funding from the Education Cannot Wait programme, is supporting Telescola and radio education programmes. Programmes are translated into local languages and broadcasted on community radios. The national television station broadcasts about 1.5 to 2.5 hours of Telescola per day to support the continuity of learning for primary and secondary school children. During the COVID-19 pandemic, school closures and restrictions in movements ensued in Mozambique, hindering the learning of millions of children.

56-year-old Constância Guiama, a teacher of the 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle was one of several teachers who took on the challenge to teach in Telescola said, “This experience has been an added value both for the teachers who participate in the filming and for students who learn from home. I was part of the Telescola programme since it originally started back in 2005, so when the schools closed due to coronavirus it only made sense to go back and support the students using the Telescola.”

Constância also uses online platforms to support her students. Once a week she gives classes using the Zoom application so she can have an interaction with her students. Some of her students are unable to participate in online classes due to their financial situation that does not always allow them to have access to the internet. “I get complaints from my students that they don’t have internet access to participate on my Zoom calls or read my explanations on WhatsApp, so the Telescola helps to alleviate this problem,” Constância said.



UNICEF Mozambique Nutrition Specialist Sonia Khan monitors the implementation of infant and young child feeding programmes in Maputo, Mozambique.

## UNICEF GLOBAL STRATEGIC PLAN

Despite the prioritization of the COVID-19 response, UNICEF managed to implement key aspects of the country programme of cooperation in line with the UNICEF Global Strategic Plan goal areas.

**Every Child Survives and Thrives** | More than 95,000 newborns received improved care in 23 UNICEF-supported hospitals as a result of the launch of a five-year Early Newborn National Action Plan and the community health care sub-system. Additionally, over 2,000 community health workers and volunteers were trained on infant and young child feeding counselling and promotion of key nutrition and WASH behaviours. More than 2.5 million children under five years received essential health services including HIV paediatric care. The development and costing of the National Triple Elimination Plan for HIV, Syphilis and Hepatitis B (2020-2024) was finalized in collaboration with the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), USAID and WHO.

**Every Child Learns** | UNICEF supported education through critical initiatives including implementation of a school readiness pilot for 2,700 children, capacity building of 24 school councils reaching 798 councils since 2017, promotion of the national reading programme, production of evidence-based advocacy tools, approval of an inclusive education strategy and improved learning environment, and system strengthening at the decentralised level.

Important policy dialogue and technical assistance were provided for the operationalization of the new ten-year Education Sector Plan 2020-2029 and the development of a training manual for early childhood education system strengthening. Furthermore, UNICEF collaborated with the European Union, Education Cannot Wait, UN-Habitat and civil society organizations (CSOs) to support the rehabilitation of classrooms using the Building Back Better (BBB) approach in cyclone-affected provinces, improving access for more than 68,000 children.

**Every Child is protected from violence and exploitation** | UNICEF supported the Ministry of Education in the establishment of a referral and reporting mechanism for violence against children in schools, and partnered with the Government of Canada to support the Ministry of Justice in the expansion of the electronic civil registration system, reaching 153 of the 164 registration posts. UNICEF also supported the launch of a programme to strengthen birth registrations systems in partnership with the Government of Norway and Green Resources, and co-led, together with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Legal Identity for All (UNLIA), which resulted in nominating Mozambique as one of the priority countries for this global United Nations initiative.

Combatting child marriage and violence against children remained priorities this year with 19,599 adolescents engaged in community dialogues aimed at addressing harmful practices that perpetuate child marriage. Pre- and post-dialogue results included a 10 per cent increase in knowledge of negative consequences of child marriage; a nearly 40 per cent increase in understanding mechanisms to report violence against children and child marriage, and a 23 per cent increase in willingness to change gender norms.

As part of the United Nations Joint Programme for social protection with the International Labour Organization, supported by the Governments of Sweden, UK and the Netherlands, UNICEF supported the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Affairs in the implementation of the child grant-based case management component in which social workers and community volunteers identified and supported 400 of the most vulnerable grant beneficiary families. In addition, in partnership with UNFPA, the Government's evaluation of the Child Marriage Strategy as well as the evaluation of the National Plan of Action for Children were supported.

**Every child lives in a safe and clean environment** | UNICEF support included water supply interventions benefitting 284,471 people through the construction/rehabilitation of 498 water sources and 27 community water systems. Furthermore, UNICEF's support resulted in 160,489 people gaining



UNICEF support included water supply interventions benefitting 284,471 people.

access to basic sanitation and 1,274 communities being declared open defecation free. The first open defecation free district in the country was inaugurated this year - a key sanitation milestone for Mozambique. Additionally, WASH infrastructure improvements were completed in 55 schools and 25 health centres. Hygiene awareness rose as a result of COVID-19 precautions, resulting in increased handwashing rates by up to 80 per cent among the general public.

As co-lead of the WASH development partner group, UNICEF supported key upstream interventions, including the small-town innovative financing initiative, the household connections revolving fund, the approval of the Joint Fund-supported 2020 Government Rural WASH Implementation Plan, the endorsement of WASH in health care facility standards, and the launch of the Hand Hygiene for All initiative. These were achieved in close partnership with Government institutions and sector partners such as the Governments of Austria, the Netherlands, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, USA, and international financial institutions such as the World Bank among others.

**Every Child has an equitable chance in life** | In collaboration with key partners such as the Secretariat of the National Assembly, United Nations agencies and international and national CSOs, a session focusing on vulnerable groups highlighting children, women, and persons with disabilities, was integrated in the induction of newly elected Members of Parliament. UNICEF also supported the National Assembly with its induction course with a specific analysis of the state budget prior to the discussion with the Ministry of Economy and Finance. Thanks to the United Nations Joint Program (UNJP) on social protection, the government continued implementation of the child grant, reaching 15,345 children in Nampula Province, with community workers delivering behaviour change communication sessions for improved child nutrition and hygiene to all beneficiaries. A new operational manual of the government cash transfer programme for vulnerable populations (elderly, persons with disabilities, children) was developed to standardize and improve its operations.



In collaboration with key partners such as the Secretariat of the National Assembly, United Nations agencies and international and national CSOs, a session focusing on vulnerable groups highlighting children, women, and persons with disabilities, was integrated in the induction of newly elected Members of Parliament.





Just like 8 year old Daniel Mateus, over 1,000 persons with disabilities were provided with psychosocial support, rehabilitation, and medical or legal services in the emergency response.

## STRENGTHENING INTEGRATED & INCLUSIVE PROGRAMMING

**Early Childhood Development (ECD)** | UNICEF, WHO and PATH supported the Ministry of Health in implementing the Nurturing Care Framework for ECD and completing the National Neonatal Guidelines. In partnership with the Mozambique Association of Paediatricians, on-site ECD mentoring activities were undertaken in 124 health facilities, including inpatient management of severe acute malnutrition. The integration of monitoring developmental milestones during routine activities in baby clinics and sick child consultations was also supported. ECD was integrated into the nutrition intervention package training, and community health workers were trained to deliver ECD counselling. Finally, a comprehensive training manual on early childhood education system strengthening was developed to equip key government stakeholders for effective delivery of the 2021 early childhood education sub-sector rollout.

**Adolescent development, participation and protection** | Together with UNFPA, UNICEF participated in the launch of an inclusive, rights-based advisory group comprised of youth and adolescents who collectively promote and enhance coordination on the adolescent and youth agenda. The United Nations joint gender focused programmes, Rapariga Biz, Global Programme to End Child Marriage, and the Spotlight Initiative collectively helped meet adolescent needs by preventing and responding to gender-based violence, and equipping them with information, knowledge and platforms to engage and foster their participation. SMS Biz, an innovative social messaging tool and data collection system, achieved its target by engaging 319,000 adolescents and young people (41 per cent female) on questions and counselling related to sexual and reproductive health and rights, HIV prevention and gender-based violence. Additionally, 3,795 adolescent girls and boys aged 10-19 years received training on production of child-led radio and television programmes.

**Disability inclusion** | UNICEF supported the development of an inclusive education strategy for the Ministry of Education which was approved this year by the Council of Ministers. Sign language interpreters were trained and deployed to health centres and tools for early detection of developmental delays among infants were piloted. Disability was mainstreamed in radio spots, videos and posters on early learning, parenting, child protection, and COVID-19 prevention. Furthermore, government partners were trained on disability inclusion. Over 1,000 persons with disabilities were provided with psychosocial support, rehabilitation, and medical or legal services in the emergency response.



Isidro Vilanculo, a driver from UNICEF Mozambique, plays with children displaced by cyclone Idai in Beira, Sofala Province. UNICEF supported the Government's response to the residual humanitarian needs from Cyclones Idai and Kenneth in the five affected provinces.

## HUMANITARIAN ACTION - OUR CORE MANDATE

As part of UNICEF's Humanitarian Action for Children Appeal for **Cabo Delgado**, UNICEF supported the Government's response to the crisis in Cabo Delgado. UNICEF mobilised corporate resources and built new partnerships to support scaling-up responses. With the support of the Governments of UK, USA, the European Community Humanitarian Aid Office and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (provided funding through the Central Emergency Response Fund plus UNICEF's humanitarian thematic funds), UNICEF was able to achieve the following key results: 50,741 children aged 6-59 months received vitamin A supplementation; 38,544 children were screened for severe acute malnutrition which 582 children were admitted for treatment; 73,391 children were vaccinated against measles; 1,066 pregnant HIV-positive women received antiretroviral therapy; 9,239 children received psychosocial support through open safe spaces; 1,600 were supported through case management services; 152,876 people accessed appropriate sanitation facilities and received hygiene messages; 3,000 children aged 6-15 years received education support; 7,915 families were reached with humanitarian cash transfers; and 640,084 people received key lifesaving and behaviour change messages. Furthermore, UNICEF furthered the response on prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, established an agreement with WFP to leverage 'Linha Verde,' a tollfree hotline used as a feedback mechanism for humanitarian assistance recipients, and initiated a child rights monitoring, reporting and response mechanism to verify and report child rights violations in armed conflict.

UNICEF also supported the Government's response to the residual humanitarian needs from **Cyclones Idai and Kenneth** in the five affected provinces. Key results achieved with the support of the European Union, Governments of Norway, Canada, Luxembourg, Sweden, as well as the Global Partnership for Education, Education Cannot Wait and CSO partnerships include: 152,037 children were screened for severe acute malnutrition of which 1,714 children were admitted for treatment; 196,000 people were reached with safe water supplies and sanitation services; 94,659 children were immunized against measles in Nampula Province; 624 children received case management services; 3,146 children received psychosocial support through child friendly spaces; and 22,040 children aged 6-15 years received education support. Since the region remained at risk for cyclonic events, UNICEF reinforced emergency preparedness with prepositioned supplies, coordination mechanisms and business continuity measures in place.



## DISPLACEMENT NEGATIVELY IMPACTS HEALTH AND NUTRITION OF CHILDREN IN CABO DELGADO



© UNICEF Mozambique/2020/Daniel Timme

A UNICEF supported health brigade in Cabo Delgado has diagnosed moderate acute malnutrition in Nalia (1). Mossa (38) receives ready-to-use supplementary food (RUSF) to treat his daughter.

An ambulance pulls into the small village of Impire in the district of Metuge in Cabo Delgado Province where about 30 mothers and one father have gathered with their children in a wooden pavilion for a medical consultation. Wearing the mandatory facemasks to prevent the spread of COVID-19, the parents are patiently waiting their turn. The integrated mobile health brigade first does a medical check-up with each child, gives medicine when necessary, and administers due vaccinations before weighing and measuring each child to see if there are signs of malnutrition.

Mossa (38) is the only father in the group. He has come today with his four children. "I wanted to give their mother a break today. We have such a long, dangerous journey behind us, and she is exhausted and sick because of all the worrying for our kids," Mossa said. The family is among the more than 600,000 people who have fled their homes in Cabo Delgado because of violence. Mossa explains that they first sought refuge on the Island of Quirimba thinking that the sea would protect them, but one day the insurgents also crossed the small channel to the Island and started looting houses and killing people. The sea was rough when



© UNICEF Mozambique/2020/Daniel Timme

Mossa (38) with Nalia (1) and his other three children at a UNICEF-supported mobile medical and nutrition check serving internally displaced people in Empire village in the south of Cabo Delgado.

Mossa’s family had to escape from the island again and the father is still terrified because he saw another boat capsizing and its passengers all drowning in the distance that day. “It could have been us but with God’s help we have made it here to the southern part of the province where we feel safe living with a friendly family.”

Like Mossa’s family, most of the displaced people live with host families. In order to respond to their needs, UNICEF is supporting integrated mobile health and nutrition brigades - professional health workers who travel with ambulances to the most remote communities catering to people who are unable to travel to health centres. Amélia Mindu, a nutrition specialist in the brigade said, “Many children are in very poor health as they have suffered from three consecutive shocks - Cyclone Kenneth, violent attacks, and now

the economic shock due to COVID-19 means their families struggle to buy food.”

When it’s finally Mossa’s youngest daughter’s turn to get checked, it is clear that the family’s double escape has left its traces. Nalia, the one-year-old, is diagnosed with moderate acute malnutrition and needs to be treated with a special ready-to-use supplementary food (RUSF) made from peanut paste.

Amelia gives Mossa a box of paste packages and shows him how to feed them to little Nalia who seems to like the taste. “If you give her this regularly, she will recover soon. It’s good that we have detected the problem in time before she developed more serious health issues,” said Amelia.

## LESSONS LEARNED & INNOVATIONS

### ADAPTABILITY AND QUICK RESPONSE TO A CHANGING ENVIRONMENT

The pandemic emphasized the importance of adopting new and flexible approaches to deliver timely and efficient results for women and children. In response to social-distancing restrictions, UNICEF supported the Government at national and subnational levels by facilitating access to and the use of new technologies for communicating, collecting data, training and capacity development, while providing personal protective equipment to support the continuation of key essential in-person services. The use of technology was applied in new ways. For instance, platforms like mobile cash were introduced to promote digital solutions to cash management as a mitigation measure to the secondary impacts of COVID-19. UNICEF supported mentorship of health workers on new-born care and inpatient nutritional care of children through online group exchanges and platforms and as a result, frontline workers were reached at one-fifth of the original approach costs.



UNICEF supported the Government at national and subnational levels by facilitating access to and the use of new technologies.

UNICEF reacted quickly for effective programming during the pandemic. Education through distance learning support was provided to 923,000 children nationwide via radio and television programs during the school closures. In child protection, social workers were trained to work on-line to provide psychosocial support and triage cases to determine the most severe ones necessary for in-person visits. Seminars with Members of Parliament took the form of webinars to discuss the socio-impact of COVID-19 on children as well as the state budget proposal. Mastering Data for Children training was conducted in an online format, and as a result of its success, the module and lessons learned were requested by other UNICEF country offices for replication.

## CONSOLIDATING TRUSTED RELATIONSHIPS WITH STRATEGIC PARTNERS

Mozambique has been subject to a volatile environment due to past and current emergencies. It has been simultaneously recovering from two cyclones and responding to a growing conflict in Cabo Delgado as well as the COVID-19 pandemic. In this context, timeline revisions and work plan adjustments were critical to quickly mobilize, adapt and consolidate existing partnerships to deliver results. UNICEF's sound relationship with donors allowed for multiple grants to be reprogrammed for the evolving priorities. A best practice example is the emergency clause in a European Union agreement of €500,000 to kick-start an emergency response and a contingency fund of €1 million in the same grant. The latter was used to mobilize US\$3 million to support the COVID-19 response in a one-month timeframe.



With the support of the European Union, UNICEF is working with partners and the Government of Mozambique, to support the population displaced by the internal conflicts in Cabo Delgado.

UNICEF played an important role as member of the core COVID-19 coordination group and was one of five partners selected to support the Ministry of Health in addressing the pandemic. UNICEF also co-led working groups in communication, community response, procurement and supplies, education, social protection, and WASH infection, prevention and control. In addition, UNICEF continued to serve as cluster lead for education, nutrition and WASH sectors, coordinating the response to the multiple emergencies as well as the cyclone recovery efforts.

These central coordination roles strengthened UNICEF's ability to advocate with key partners, support effective sector coordination, and mobilize resources. Collaboration with United Nations agencies and the scale-up of partnerships with international financial institutions such as the WB, Islamic Development Bank, African Development Bank and International Monetary Fund, as well as civil society organizations, have been vital in Mozambique's complex emergency context. Public-private partnerships and multi-stakeholder initiatives will continue to be essential in 2021 to expand reach and results for children.

## ● PRODUCING EVIDENCE, A TOP PRIORITY

The results and efforts of 2020 are characterized by adaptation, technological innovation, and planning under high levels of uncertainty. COVID-19 brought new opportunities for data use and analyses. Initiatives to produce evidence in such a context included supporting a real time monitoring platform for the COVID-19 response by the Ministry of Education. A 'Rapid Learn' telephone survey was developed to collect information from key stakeholders addressing the short-term effects of the pandemic on child learning and family welfare and data from this tool later informed policy debate on school reopening. Additionally, two national knowledge, attitudes and practices surveys on COVID-19 preventive practices were conducted.

UNICEF and WFP provided technical support to the Secretariat for Food and Nutrition Security to identify a new method of obtaining food security and nutrition information called the mobile Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (m-VAM). The m-VAM is a mobile phone-based tool which was used to conduct a nationwide food security survey to collect data used for IPC<sup>3</sup> acute food insecurity analysis. Furthermore, a district health management information system dashboard on continuity of essential services was developed and analysis of data on the impact of disruptions in essential services on maternal and child mortality was conducted using the Lives Saved Tool.

UNICEF supported two research initiatives on violence and access to justice that included an administrative data review and a situation analysis. UNICEF also worked in close collaboration with the German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ) to introduce and support the conception of an education management information system (EMIS) module, contributing to system strengthening at decentralized levels. In strengthening national capacity in evidence-based policy and programs, UNICEF guided the creation of the first National Association of Monitoring and Evaluation (AMMA), which was registered in 2020. And finally, UNICEF led an impact evaluation of the Accelerated School Readiness (ASR) Programme which was selected as a finalist in the Best of UNICEF Research and Evaluation (BOURE) 2020.

The launch and continuous development of evidence-based advocacy tools were instrumental in bringing children's issues into the policy spotlight. UNICEF developed a policy note to facilitate discussion with members of parliament at the early stage of the pandemic to generate awareness of the socio-economic impact of COVID-19 on children. Subsequently, a second policy note was produced focusing on policy recommendations as well as notes on thematic topics which stimulated productive discussions with donors, Government, and a wider group of partners.

<sup>3</sup> The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a common global scale for classifying the severity and magnitude of food insecurity and malnutrition.





## UNITED NATIONS COLLABORATION & OTHER PARTNERSHIPS

Partnerships with United Nations agencies and international financial institutions were strengthened in all areas during the pandemic. There are ten ongoing United Nations joint programmes in line with the global inter-agency partnerships, and eight national programmes implemented through United Nations to United Nations agency contribution agreements, with ILO, IOM, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UN-Habitat, UN Women, WFP and WHO.

UNICEF's strong convening role was recognized in different coordination mechanisms: UNICEF co-chaired the technical advisory group of the social protection sector response to COVID-19 with the Government of Sweden; joined the troika with the Government of Finland and the World Bank to represent the partners supporting the education sector strategic plan; chaired the COVID-19 education technical group which supported the COVID-19 response plan of the Ministry of Education; co-chaired the WASH Partners' Group; and co-chaired the Health Partners' Group along with USAID, which, following three years of concerted effort, succeeded in having the Ministry of Health integrated sector wide approach formally approved. These fora provided important opportunities to position key child rights' issues at the highest level in the policy dialogue between development partners and the Government.

Additionally, UNICEF increased its efforts to position the Children's Rights and Business Principles to ensure children's rights are embedded in business operations and private sector development plans. Advocacy and awareness raising efforts on COVID-19, handwashing, and breastfeeding were channelled through businesses and multi-stakeholder platforms. UNICEF advocated with soap companies to reach the most vulnerable with accessible, affordable soap and to strengthen handwashing efforts and contribute to communities' behaviour change around hand hygiene. The Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) and UNICEF developed a set of business models tailored to salt producers in the country, providing an implementation roadmap which included distribution and demand generation for iodized salt.

UNICEF also contributed to the achievement of the Core Commitments for Children (CCCs) through resource mobilization, direct support to partners, and advocacy through its engagement with CSO actors. In many cases UNICEF was able to develop multisectoral partnerships with CSOs to reach children more efficiently. The number of CSOs in Mozambique increased in response to the 2019 cyclones and COVID-19 and by the end of 2020, UNICEF had 53 active CSO partnerships: 30 with international CSOs, 22 with national CSOs, and one with an international academic institution.

An integrated approach for strategic partnerships is being developed to accelerate resource mobilization and leveraging potential to broaden influence and strengthen existing and new partnerships for children in Mozambique. This framework and close interaction with partners will be key in 2021 as part of the development of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework for 2022-2026 and the Country Programme of Cooperation between the Government of Mozambique and UNICEF country programme document for the same period.



unicef



## PRIORITIES FOR 2021: RE-IMAGINING A BETTER FUTURE FOR EVERY CHILD IN MOZAMBIQUE

The multiple shocks in Mozambique have pushed the population into further vulnerability and widened the inequality gap. The social, economic and health impacts of these crises will reverberate for years to come, impacting child rights.

But this is not the time to be intimidated or paralyzed by these challenges. As we kick off UNICEF's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we are reminded that UNICEF was created during a historic crisis in the aftermath of World War II. Working closely with the Government and partners, we know that we can make a difference for children in Mozambique.

Building on the lessons learnt and results from last year, the following priorities were identified:

- Disaster response and preparedness** | The vulnerability of Mozambique to both man-made and natural disasters requires focused attention with a long-term vision of improved child development and wellbeing. Priorities for 2021 will include continued rapid response to the conflict in the north, ensuring child rights are upheld in armed conflict, and consistent support to the Government of Mozambique in addressing all aspects of response to natural disasters, including preparedness, risk reduction, response and capacity building.
- COVID-19 secondary impacts** | UNICEF will support the recovery from the pandemic, including: implementation of the COVID-19 vaccination plan; inclusive safe return to schools and improved learning outcomes for boys and girls; implementation of the COVID-19 social protection plan and continuity of essential social services for children and families.
- Stunting reduction** | UNICEF will expand the integrated, cross-sector response to stunting reduction as part of the early childhood development agenda. Ongoing interventions across sectors will be strengthened to support investments and results for the survival, development and protection of young, vulnerable children.
- Adolescents** | UNICEF will support specific second decade programming to ensure that adolescents, especially girls, are empowered and have access to development opportunities, adequate health services, and protection. Specific focus will be placed on promoting alternative learning pathways for adolescents; prevention and response to gender-based violence, especially child marriage; and engagement of young people in advocacy and programming, including in emergency settings.



## FINANCIAL FIGURES & STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

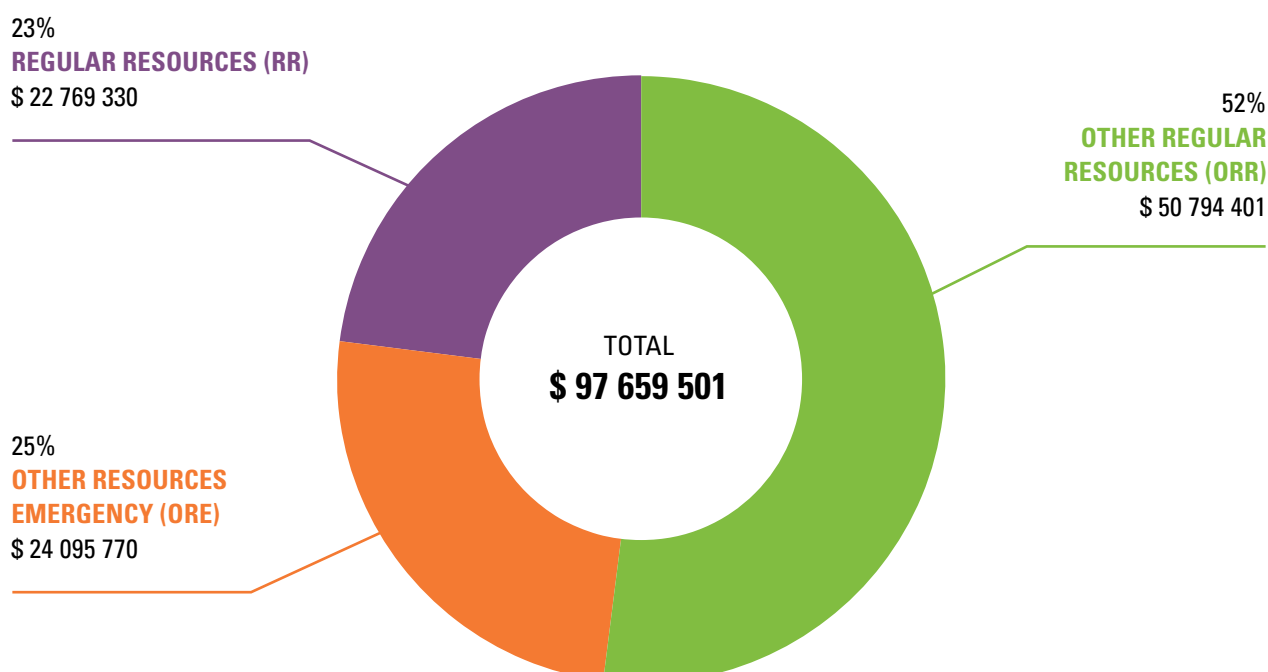
UNICEF relies entirely on voluntary contributions from governments and private donors channeled through three main funding streams: regular resources (RR), other regular resources (ORR), and other resources – emergency (ORE). The RR contributions are UNICEF’s core resources; ORR are voluntary contributions from public and private donors for development programmes; and ORE funds are provided for humanitarian action for children.

In 2020, UNICEF implemented more than US\$97 million to support child survival, development and protection actions in Mozambique. One-fourth of the resources were used to respond to emergencies. Collective collaboration with sister UN agencies through joint programmes correspond to 16 per cent of the other resources implemented within the country programme of cooperation.

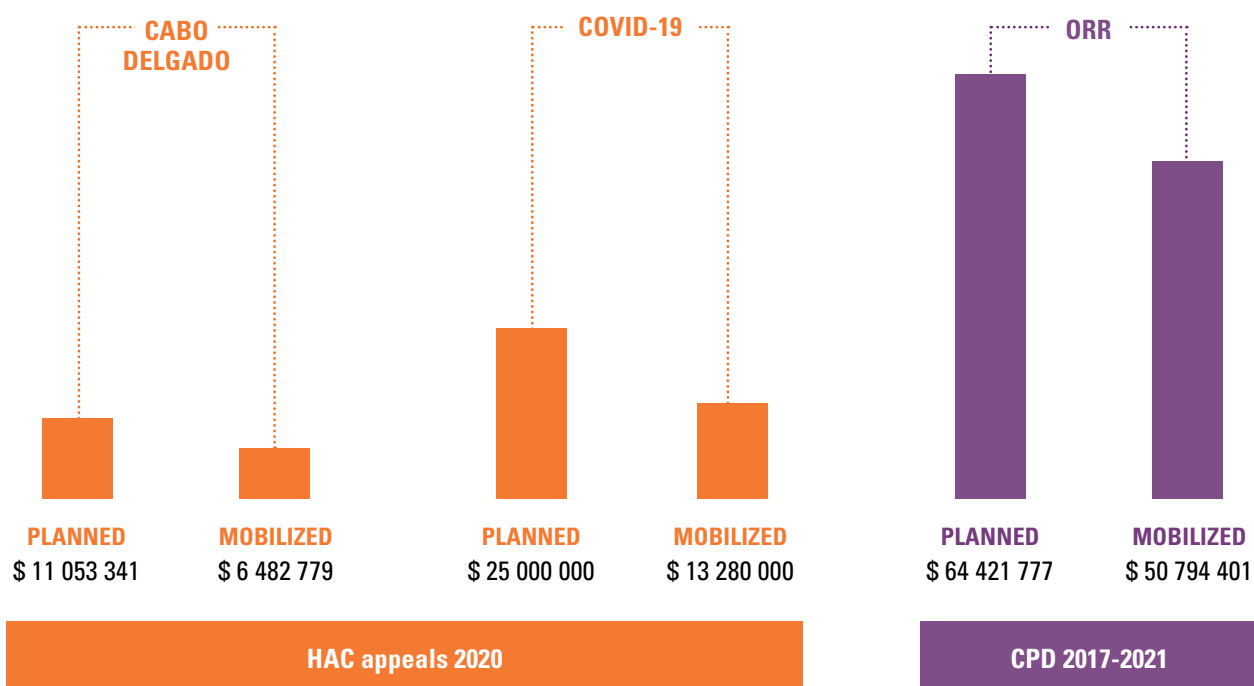
Resource mobilisation was strengthened throughout the year resulting in a total of US\$72.1 million additional resources, out of which around US\$19.8 million was for the humanitarian response.

We thank all our partners for their trust in UNICEF and commitment to children’s rights.

### 2020 FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION BY TYPE OF FUNDING



## FUNDS PLANNED VS MOBILIZED



NB: The two HACs exclude other emergency funds available for cyclone and other emergencies

## DONORS

### PUBLIC

European Union & ECHO  
Austria  
France  
Ireland  
Japan  
Luxembourg  
Netherlands  
Sweden  
United Kingdom

Norway  
Iceland  
Switzerland  
US – USAID & Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
Canada  
China  
Republic of Korea

### INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

GAVI  
Nutrition International  
UNAIDS  
UNITAID  
The World Bank

Education Cannot Wait  
Global Partnership of Education  
Global Thematic Funds  
CERF (UNOCHA)

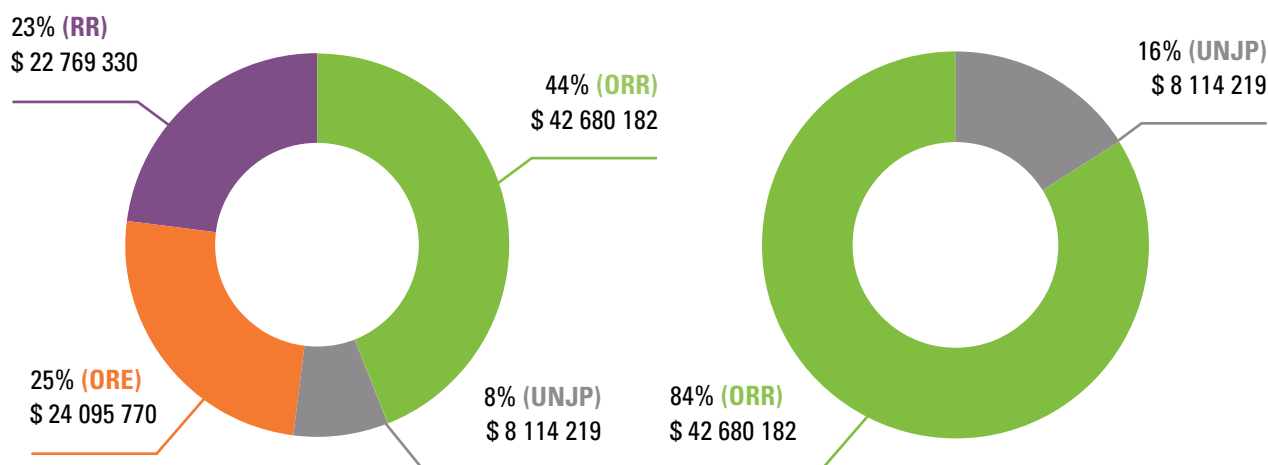
### UNICEF NATIONAL COMMITTEES

US  
Canada  
Australia  
Japan  
Qatar  
UK  
Germany  
Netherlands

Sweden  
Norway  
Denmark  
France  
Portugal  
Spain  
Switzerland

## SHOWCASING UN COLLABORATION

### 2020 FUNDS UTILIZED



## UN JOINT PROGRAMMES (UNJP)

- 1 Strengthening Civil Registration and Vital Statistics - UNICEF and WHO in partnership with the Government of Canada.
- 2 Global Programme to Accelerate Action to End Child Marriage - UNICEF and UNFPA in partnership with the Governments of Belgium, Canada, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, UK.
- 3 Action for Girls and Young Women's Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (Rapariga Biz) - UNICEF, UNFPA, UNESCO and UN Women in partnership with the Governments of Canada, Sweden, UK.
- 4 Improving Sexual, Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health - UNICEF, UNFPA and WHO in partnership with the UK government.
- 5 UN Joint Programme on Social Protection - UNICEF and ILO in partnership with the Governments of the Netherlands, Sweden, and the United Kingdom.
- 6 Spotlight Initiative (SLI) to eliminate violence against women and girls - UNICEF, UNFPA, UNDP, UN Women in partnership with the European Union.
- 7 UN Joint Nutrition Relief Recovery Operation Response to Cyclone Idai - UNICEF and WFP in partnership with the UK government.
- 8 Lean Season Nutrition Response and Resilience Building - UNICEF and WFP in partnership with the UK government.
- 9 Building Resilience through Education and Youth Engagement in Cyclone Affected Schools in Mozambique - UNICEF and UN-Habitat in partnership with the European Commission.
- 10 Growing Safer: Supporting School Disaster Prevention, Building Back Better Reconstruction - UNICEF and UN-Habitat in partnership with EU/ECHO.

## UN TO UN AGREEMENTS

### UNICEF - WFP

- Supporting Linha Verde interagency tollfree reporting mechanism implemented nationwide.
- Provision of cash transfers to vulnerable households under the national social protection programme response to COVID-19 in Tete and Zambezia Provinces.
- School feeding within the education COVID-19 response under the Global Partnership for Education, with a focus on Cabo Delgado, Manica, Sofala and Zambezia Provinces.

### UNICEF - UNFPA

- Technical assistance to the Coalition to End Child Marriage to coordinate CSO activities with government.

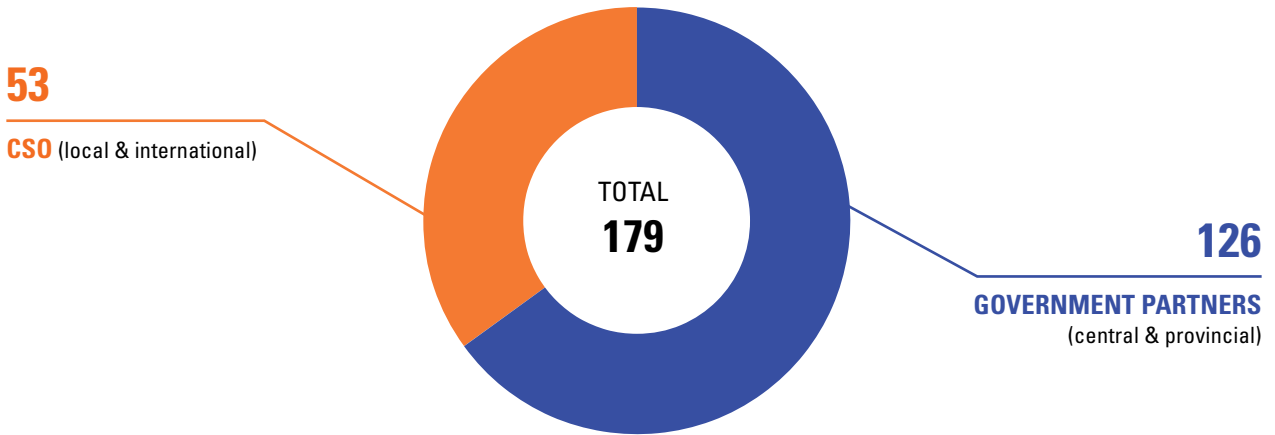
### UNICEF - IOM

- Enhancing HIV and TB response for displaced and vulnerable populations in Cabo Delgado.
- Assessing protection and child protection risks and needs in Cabo Delgado.
- A national project to pilot interventions supporting the Government of Mozambique in strengthening reference groups for child protection and combatting human trafficking.

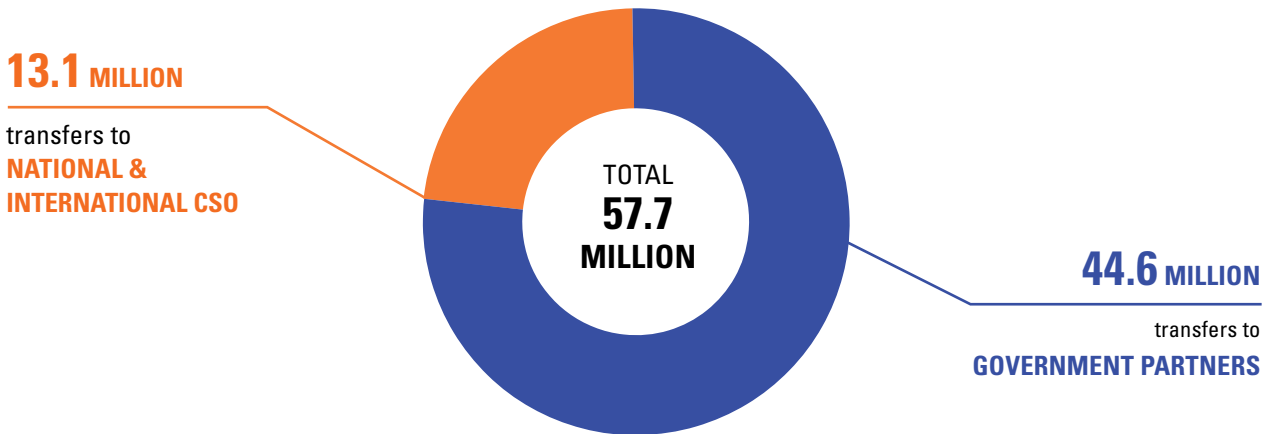
### UNICEF - UNESCO

- Ensuring learning continuity in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic: transition from primary to secondary education in Zambezia Province.

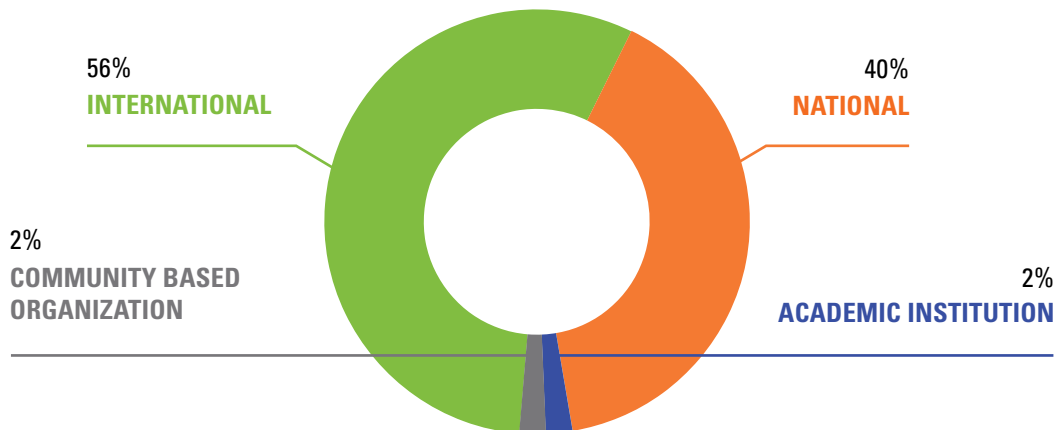
NUMBER OF UNICEF PARTNERS IN 2020



VOLUME OF \$ TRANSFERS IN 2020 BY TYPES OF TRANSFERS



TYPES OF CSO PARTNERS





## **For every child**

Whoever she is.

Wherever he lives.

Every child deserves a childhood.

A future.

A fair chance.

That's why UNICEF is there.

For each and every child.

Working day in and day out.

In more than 190 countries and territories.

Reaching the hardest to reach.

The furthest from help.

The most excluded.

It's why we stay to the end.

And never give up.



Published by UNICEF Mozambique  
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)  
Av do Zimbabwe 1440, Maputo, Mozambique  
May 2021