



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Mozambique

DIEM – Data in Emergencies Monitoring brief, round 6

Results and recommendations
March 2024

Data collection 7 December 2023 to 16 January 2024

Key highlights

- > Over 50 percent of the surveyed households reported experiencing a shock in the three months preceding the survey. Agricultural households were more likely to report shocks compared to non-agricultural households.
- > About 65 percent of the respondent crop producers reported facing difficulties with production.
- > Over 30 percent of livestock rearing households reported livestock production difficulties including livestock disease or injury (62 percent).
- > The impact of dry and hot conditions due to El Niño is evident. The major difficulties faced by producers were linked to insufficient rainfall and pest outbreaks.
- > According to the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES), 48 percent of households experienced moderate or severe recent food insecurity (RFI) and 12 percent experienced severe RFI. About 32 percent of households were classified in the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Phase 3+.
- > A need for assistance was reported by nearly 80 percent of respondent households to enable production in their respective sectors in the three to six months following the survey.
- > It is recommended that humanitarian food assistance and the integration of Cash + and Cash for Work into emergency assistance programming be scaled up in areas experiencing severe food security outcomes and in need for rehabilitation and establishment of livestock watering points.
- > The distribution of free or subsidized short cycle maize, vegetable seed varieties and other agricultural inputs targeting drought affected households is also recommended.

Methodology

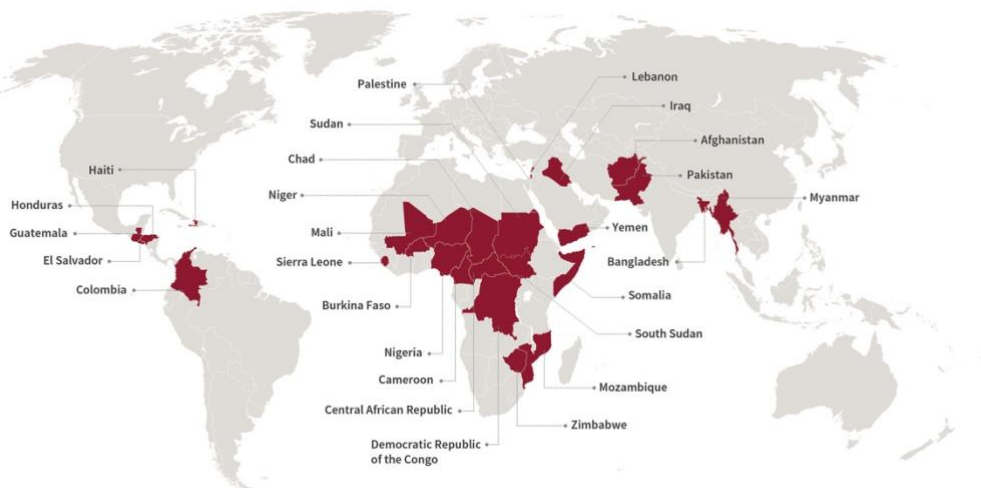
The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) conducted a household survey in Mozambique through the Data in Emergencies Monitoring (DIEM-Monitoring) System to monitor agricultural livelihoods and food security. This sixth-round survey reached 2 209 households through computer-assisted telephone interviews from 7 December 2023 to 16 January 2024. Data collection took place during the main crop planting season.

The survey is representative at administrative level 1 and covered nine out of the country's eleven provinces: Cabo Delgado, Gaza, Inhambane, Manica, Nampula, Niassa, Sofala, Tete and Zambezia. The survey also covered eight districts at administrative level 2. The survey utilized a one-stage sample design and drew a simple random sample stratified by administrative levels 1 and 2. This resulted in 3 460 targeted households. The survey employed panel data and stratified simple random sample approaches reaching a total of 2 209 households. Between 200 and 203 households were sampled in each province. Of the total sampled households, 78 percent were agricultural households.

Quotas for agricultural and non-agricultural households were based on relative proportions of each at provincial level. The sample size at administrative level 2, for both agricultural and non-agricultural households was not achieved. Ongoing conflict in the north, and the movement of people fleeing to safe areas made it challenging to reach households in these areas.

Findings from the current round have been compared to those from the fourth round, which was conducted from 22 September to 31 October 2022 during the main crop planting season, a similar season to the current round.

Figure 1. Countries with an established DIEM-Monitoring System



Source of data: FAO. 2023. DIEM-Monitoring. In: *FAO Data in Emergencies Hub*. Rome. [Cited 1 July 2023]. <https://data-in-emergencies.fao.org>

Source of map: United Nations Geospatial. 2023. Map of the World. In: *United Nations*. [Cited 1 July 2023]. <https://www.un.org/geospatial/content/map-world-1>

The final boundary between the Sudan and South Sudan has not yet been determined. Final status of the Abyei area is not yet determined. The dotted line represents, approximately, the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties.

About DIEM-Monitoring

FAO established the DIEM-Monitoring System to collect, analyse and disseminate data on shocks and livelihoods in countries prone to multiple shocks. DIEM-Monitoring aims to inform decision making by providing regularly updated information on how different shocks are affecting the livelihoods and food security of agricultural populations.

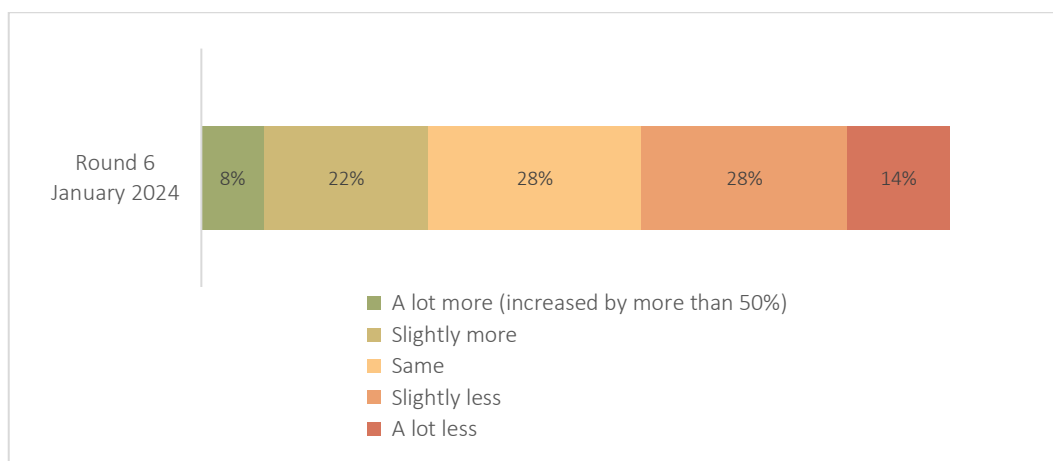
At the core of the DIEM-Monitoring System are country-level dashboards. Readers are encouraged to explore these dashboards to gain more insight into the context of Mozambique and other countries.

> Learn more at <https://data-in-emergencies.fao.org/pages/monitoring>

Income and shocks

Around 5 percent of households reported they had no main income and had to use savings or accrue debts. Production and the sale of staple crops were most frequently reported as the main income source (27 percent). About 63 percent – down from 73 percent in the fourth round – had no second income and 87 percent – down from 97 percent – had no third income. About 42 percent – down from 46 percent – reported a main income decrease (Figure 2) while, 36 percent – down from 40 percent – reported a second income decrease, and 43 percent – up from 15 percent – reported a third income decrease.

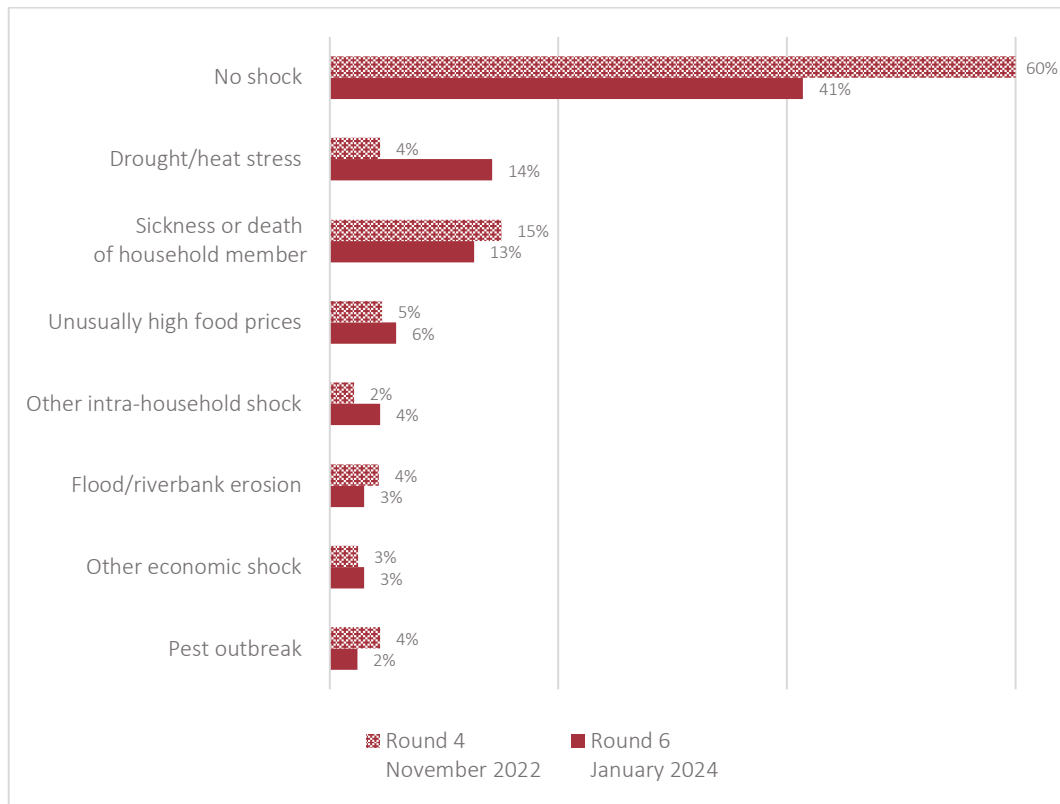
Figure 2. Changes in the main source of income (percentage of households)



Source: FAO. 2023. Mozambique: DIEM-Monitoring assessment results (January 2024). In: *FAO Data in Emergencies Hub*. Rome. [Cited 27 February 2024]. <https://data-in-emergencies.fao.org>.

The major shocks reported were drought or heat stress (14 percent – up from 4 percent – and sickness, accident or death of a household member (13 percent – down from 15 percent) (Figure 3). Over 50 percent of respondents reported experiencing any shock in the three months preceding the survey, however agricultural households were more likely to report shocks (62 percent compared to 43 percent of non-agricultural households). Reported shocks have slightly decreased from 60 percent of all households in the fourth round to 59 percent this round.

Figure 3. Main shocks reported (percentage of households)

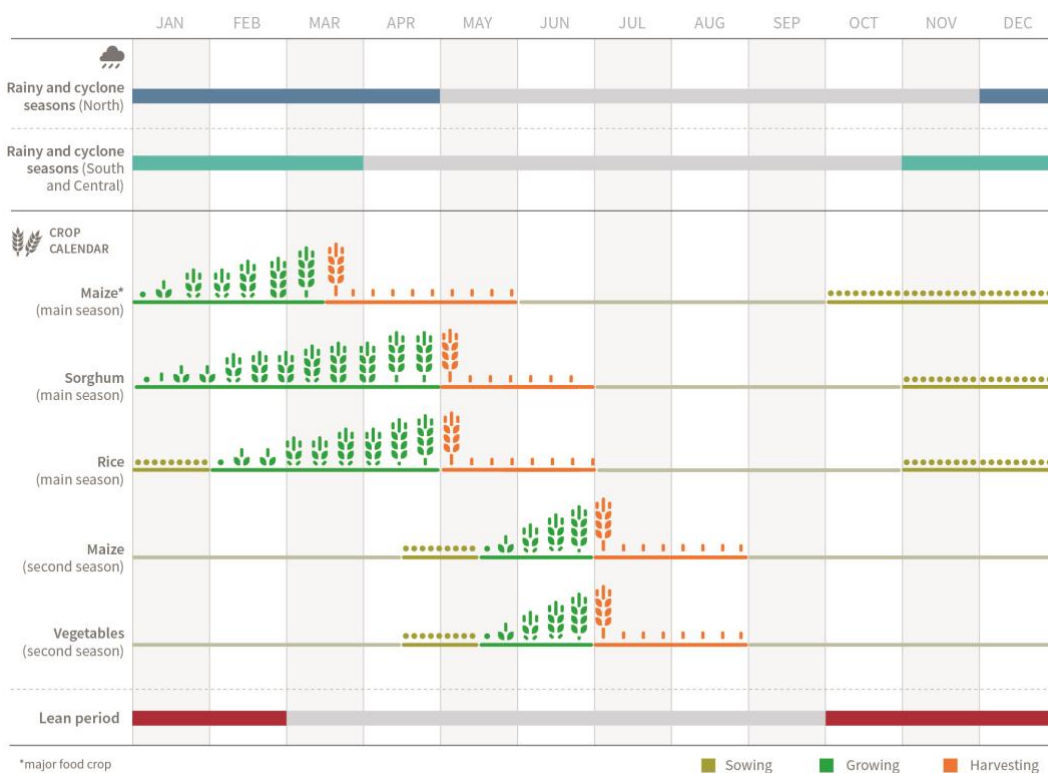


Source: FAO. 2023. Mozambique: DIEM-Monitoring assessments results (November 2022 and January 2024). In: *FAO Data in Emergencies Hub*. Rome. [Cited 27 February 2024]. <https://data-in-emergencies.fao.org>

The last quarter of 2023 was characterized by the presence of El Niño conditions which have driven drought conditions across areas in Gaza, Inhambane, Sofala and South Manica provinces, and above-average rainfall and flooding episodes in the northern provinces coupled with continued conflicts in the north. These weather shocks led to wilting and loss of crops, and likely reduced the area planted and labour opportunities. The impact of El Niño-induced drought was evident. Agricultural households more frequently reported drought as the main shock (19 percent compared to 4 percent of non-agricultural households).

Crops

Figure 4. Mozambique agricultural calendar



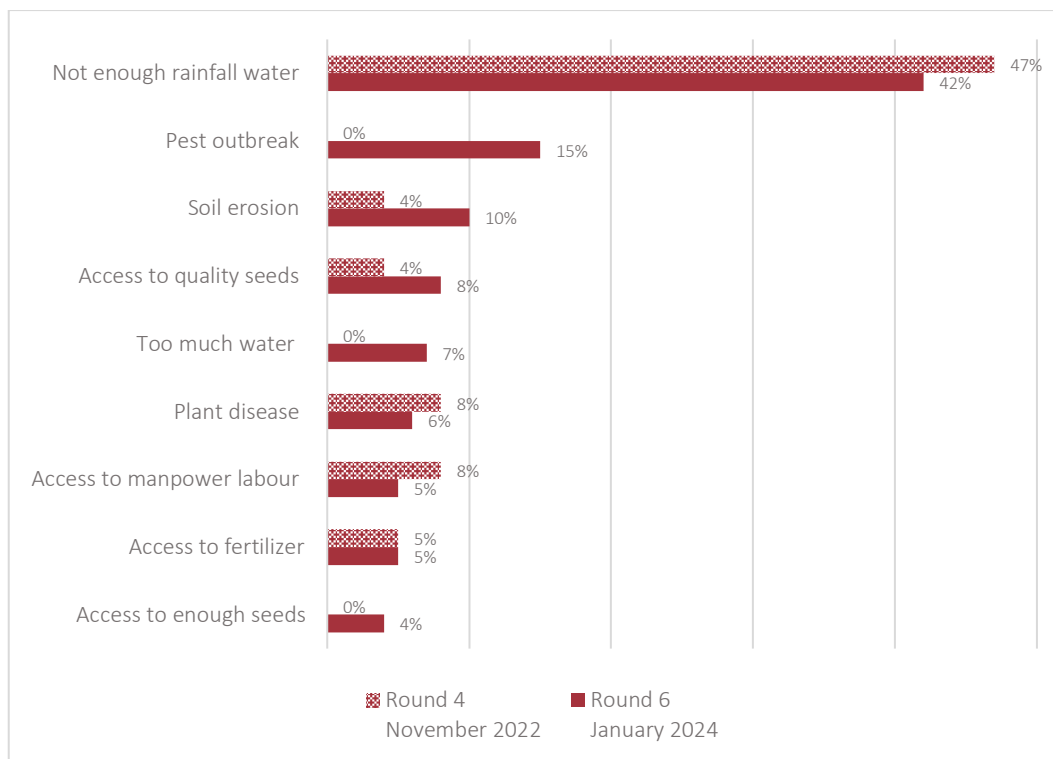
Source: FAO. 2024. GIEWS Country Briefs: Mozambique. In: FAO, 13 February 2024. Rome. [Cited 15 February 2024]. <https://www.fao.org/giews/countrybrief/country.jsp?code=MOZ>

Sixty-eight percent of the surveyed households were engaged in crop production. The main cultivated crops were maize (50 percent), cassava (15 percent), groundnut (11 percent) and rice (8 percent). Slightly more crop producers reported planting more area compared to the last cropping season (29 percent) than those who planted less (22 percent). Most farmers (21 percent) reported planting a lot more area than the last cropping season and 21 percent planted the same. In Gaza and Inhambane, between 40 and 60 percent of farmers reported a drop in the area planted.

About 65 percent reported facing crop production difficulties and 36 percent faced difficulties selling crops. Nearly three-quarters of crop producers relied on rain for irrigation. The rainfall deficit that occurred mainly in the beginning of the cropping season inevitably impacted the growth of crops and agricultural livelihoods.

The sixth-round survey was conducted during the main crop planting season. The impact of dry and hot conditions, and rainfall deficit due to El Niño was evident. The major reported difficulties faced by producers were linked to not enough rainfall (42 percent), pest outbreaks (15 percent) and plant disease (6 percent) (Figure 4).

Figure 4. Crop production difficulties (percentage of crop producers)

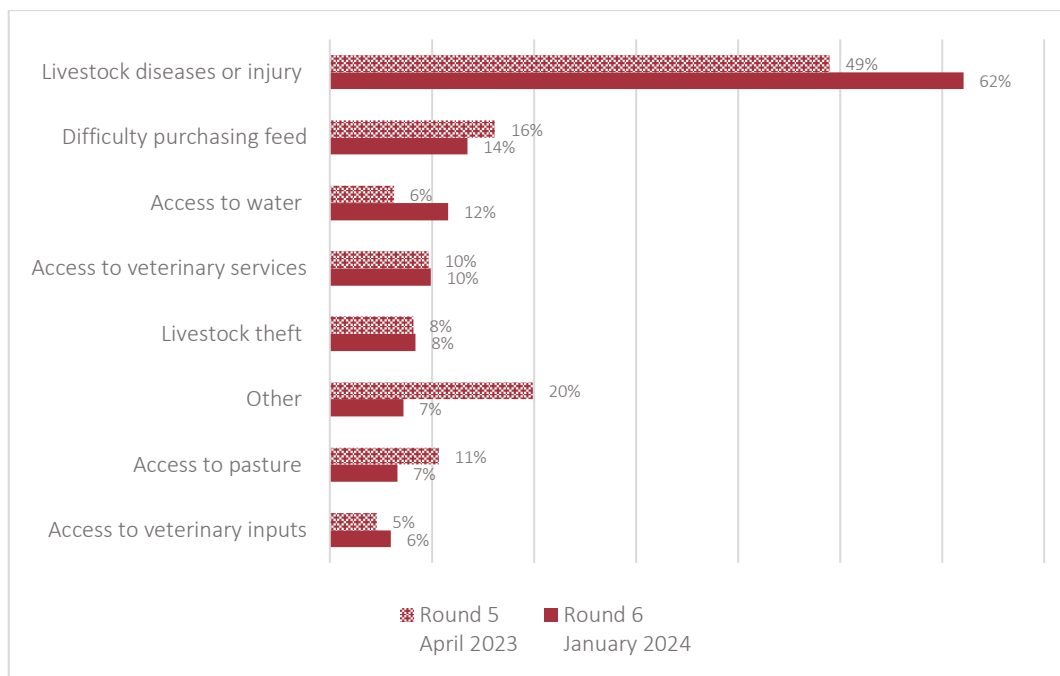


Source: FAO, 2023. Mozambique: DIEM-Monitoring assessments results (November 2022 and January 2024). In: *FAO Data in Emergencies Hub*. Rome. [Cited 27 February 2024]. <https://data-in-emergencies.fao.org>

Livestock

Forty percent of households engaged in either the production or sale of livestock, and livestock products. The main livestock produced were poultry (59 percent) cattle (15 percent) and goats (12 percent). About 37 percent of producers faced livestock production difficulties in the three months preceding the survey. The most common livestock production difficulty was diseases or injury (62 percent), followed by difficulties purchasing feed (14 percent), access to water (12 percent) and veterinary services (10 percent) (Figure 5).

Figure 5. Livestock production difficulties (percentage of livestock producers)



Source: FAO. 2023. Mozambique: DIEM-Monitoring assessments results (April 2023 and January 2024). In: *FAO Data in Emergencies Hub*. Rome. [Cited 15 February 2024]. <https://data-in-emergencies.fao.org>

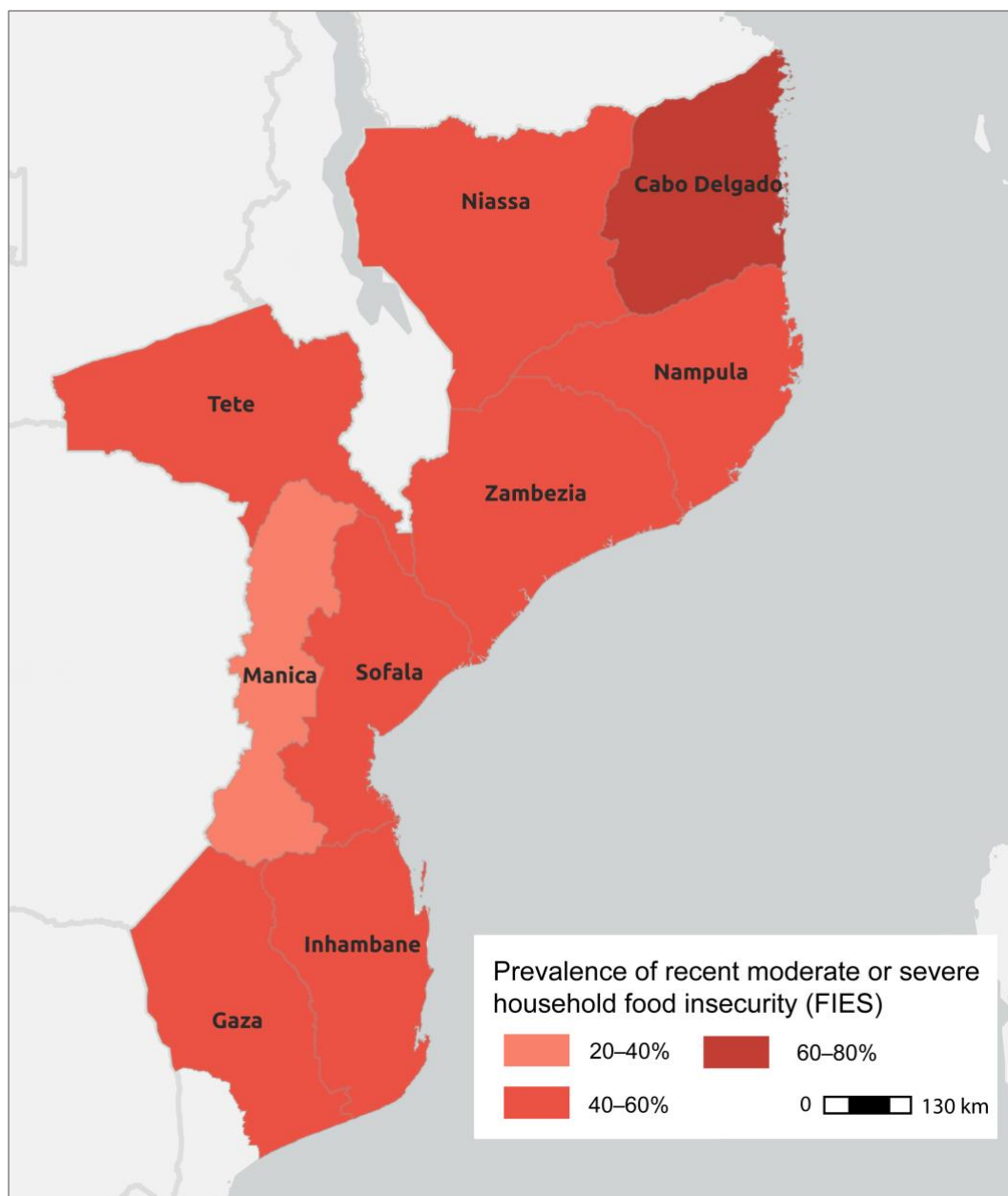
About 61 percent of livestock producers reported a decrease in the number of livestock from the same time the previous year, mainly due to animal deaths from diseases, parasites or injury (32 percent), and animal death due to malnutrition, drought or lack of feed (9 percent). About 24 percent of livestock producers faced difficulties selling their livestock and livestock products, a decrease compared to the fourth round (44 percent). The main sales difficulty reported by producers was lack of demand from usual buyers (45 percent – down from 9 percent). Approximately 56 percent of livestock producers reported that prices have increased compared to the past three years.

Food security

According to the FIES,¹ 48 percent (down from 54 percent in the fourth round) of households experienced moderate or severe RFI with 12 percent experiencing severe RFI. According to the IPC, about 32 percent of households were in IPC Phase 3 or worse. The highest percentage of households experiencing moderate or severe food insecurity were in Cabo Delgado (63 percent), Sofala (58 percent) and Inhambane (51 percent) (Figure 6).

¹ FIES results are subject to change until the country scale is established for more consistent comparability across rounds.

Figure 6. Prevalence of recent moderate or severe food insecurity by province (FIES)



Source: FAO. 2023. Mozambique: DIEM-Monitoring assessment results (January 2024). In: *FAO Data in Emergencies Hub*. Rome. [Cited 27 February 2024]. <https://data-in-emergencies.fao.org>.

There has been a significant increase in households with low dietary diversity, from 6.5 percent in the fourth round to 18 percent in the current round. About 45 percent of the households (down from 60 percent in the fourth round) had high dietary diversity. The predominant household hunger score was 0, indicating little to no hunger for about 52 percent of the households. According to the food consumption score (FCS), 61 percent of households had acceptable FCS (equivalent to IPC Phases 1 and 2), 30 percent had borderline FCS (equivalent to IPC Phase 3) and 9 percent had poor FCS (equivalent to IPC Phase 4).

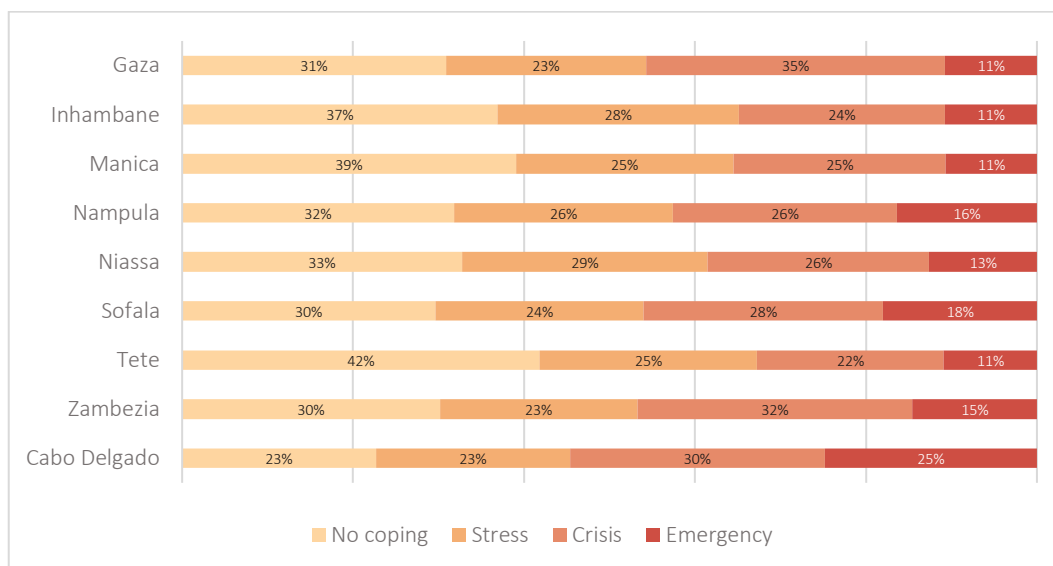
Based on the definitions adopted by the IPC, food security coping outcomes were slightly skewed towards worse acute food security phases (IPC Phase 3+). These include the reduced Coping Strategy Index, which placed nearly 32 percent of the households under IPC Phase 3 or

worse. Thirty-seven percent of the households adopted stress food-based coping strategies while only 31 percent did not adopt any food based coping strategy.

Thirty percent of the respondent households did not engage in any form of coping to access food and income. According to the livelihood coping strategies index (LCSI), 24 percent engaged in stress-based coping strategies, 28 percent employed crisis-based coping strategies and 18 percent engaged in emergency based coping strategies.

Crisis coping mechanisms were predominantly employed in Gaza (35 percent), Zambezia (32 percent), Cabo Delgado (30 percent) and Sofala (28 percent) to meet their food and income needs. The adoption of crisis and/or emergency coping strategies is likely linked to the conflict in Cabo Delgado. Further linkages include the persistent dry conditions, extreme high temperatures and rainfall deficit in north Zambezia, most of Gaza province, north Inhambane and south Sofala. Households employing emergency coping mechanisms may experience long-term detrimental effects to livelihoods.

Figure 7. LCSI by province (percentage of households)



Source: FAO. 2023. Mozambique: DIEM-Monitoring assessment results (January 2024). In: *FAO Data in Emergencies Hub*. Rome. [Cited 27 February 2024]. <https://data-in-emergencies.fao.org>.

Needs

About 80 percent of respondent households stated the need for assistance in the next three to six months following the survey. The requested assistance included inputs for crop and vegetable production (59 percent), cash (32 percent), infrastructure for crop and vegetable production (24 percent) and food (18 percent).

In the three months preceding the survey, 91 percent stated that they had not received any form of assistance. About 3 percent reported that they had received food and crop related assistance, and 2 percent received cash assistance. Ninety-three percent of households indicated that the assistance satisfied their needs. Of those reporting that they had received some support, non-governmental organizations were the main provider (30 percent) followed by the Government (28 percent) and the World Food Programme (24 percent).

Recommendations

Short-term recommendations (1–6 months)

- > Scale up humanitarian food assistance to areas experiencing severe food security outcomes including Cabo Delgado and Gaza provinces.
- > Integrate Cash + packages for emergency assistance, as many respondents have indicated a preference for cash in parallel with agro-inputs.
- > Set up free or subsidized distribution of appropriate seed varieties and other agricultural inputs to allow drought affected households in most of Gaza, north Inhambane, south Sofala and north Zambezia provinces to prepare for the second season's production.
- > Rehabilitate or establish critical water infrastructure in drought-affected areas of Gaza, Inhambane, Sofala and Tete provinces to improve water availability, and access for livestock producers and their livestock.
- > Improve the early warning system through dissemination of early warning messages to at-risk households, and critically provide corresponding recommendations and means to implement so that the livelihoods and assets of at-risk households are protected.

Medium- to long-term recommendations (6–24 months)

- > Scale up extension programmes to build farmers' capacity on improved agricultural practices and expand access to veterinary services by training more community-based animal health workers and equipping them with veterinary kits to provide disease diagnosis and treatment to reduce the animal death rate.
- > Invest in supporting agricultural infrastructure (irrigation infrastructure and livestock watering points, etc), roads, storage and information systems.
- > Promote a market system approach linking farmers directly to markets as a means of increasing profitability and stabilization of household incomes. Encourage the formation of produce marketing groups to aggregate produce for marketing, and overcome high transportation and other marketing costs.
- > Establish field level private veterinary service providers to improve availability and access to animal health services for agro-livestock communities.
- > Intensify training on integrated pest and disease management, and soil conservation to manage pests and diseases.
- > Scale up livestock feed production and processing, and train livestock producers in the production of multi-nutrient blocks using locally sourced materials.



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