

## MOZAMBIQUE FACT SHEET

Feed the Future, the U.S. Government's global hunger and food security initiative, is establishing a lasting foundation for progress against global hunger. With a focus on smallholder farmers, particularly women, Feed the Future supports partner countries in developing their agriculture sectors to spur economic growth that increases incomes and reduces hunger, poverty, and undernutrition. Feed the Future efforts are driven by country-led priorities and rooted in partnership with donor organizations, the private sector, and civil society to enable long-term success. Feed the Future aims to assist millions of vulnerable women, children, and family members to escape hunger and poverty, while also reaching significant numbers of children with highly effective nutrition interventions to prevent stunting and child mortality.

### Feed the Future in Mozambique

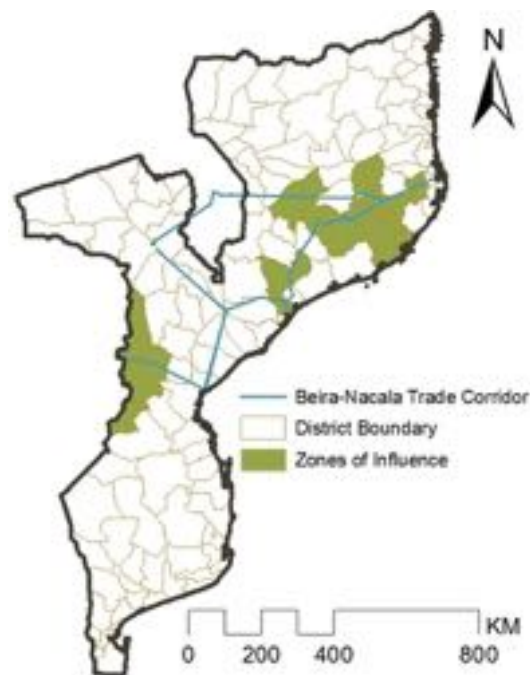
The Republic of Mozambique has among the best records of sustained economic growth in Africa, averaging eight percent per year over the last decade. However, poverty and undernutrition rates remain high in a country that is highly vulnerable to drought, flooding, climate change, and tropical storms.

Mozambique has the potential to become a breadbasket for the region with vast amounts of available fertile land and its beneficial geographic location along major trade corridors and ports. Agriculture is a key component of the economy, accounting for over 24 percent of gross domestic product and 80 percent of the labor force and is critical for economic development and poverty alleviation.

Poverty and food insecurity are the main underlying causes of chronic undernutrition in Mozambique, which currently affects 44 percent of children under age five. Food availability is also limited by low yields and inadequate access to markets for many of its citizens.

### Transforming Agricultural Value Chains

Feed the Future in Mozambique focuses on oilseeds (groundnut, sesame, and soybean), pulses (bean, cowpea, and pigeon pea), cashew, and fruit (mango, banana, and pineapple) value chains due to their high income potential for smallholder farmers and their nutritional importance for vulnerable populations. Productivity, processing, and marketing of these commodities are expanded by enhancing access to finance, forging public-private partnerships, providing business development services, and improving the business-enabling environment. Feed the Future is facilitating international and local agribusinesses to invest in agriculture and engage with smallholders to increase their productivity and reduce food insecurity.



### Feed the Future Focus

**Target Regions:** Nampula, Zambezia, and Manica provinces, supporting value chain development along the Beira and Nacala trade corridors

**Value Chains:** Oilseeds, pulses, cashews, fruits

**Objectives:** Increase equitable growth in the agriculture sector and improve the nutritional status of Mozambicans, especially women and children under five

### **Fostering Research and Development**

Fostering innovations in research and development and strengthening local capacity in Mozambique are critical to support long-term agricultural productivity. The U.S. Government works with Mozambique's National Agricultural Research Institute, international agricultural research centers, and the Brazilian National Agricultural Research Corporation (EMBRAPA) to generate higher-yielding, disease-resistant, and drought-tolerant crop varieties and improve agricultural practices for farmers.

### **Promoting Policy Analysis and Advocacy**

An environment that facilitates private sector investment in agriculture encourages the development of new innovations and is vital for the adoption of modern farming practices. Feed the Future promotes policies that improve the enabling environment for private investment and allow for more open trade in agricultural goods. Feed the Future also supports policies that promote greater gender equity and enhanced nutrition. This approach supports the Mozambican government's policy commitments under the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) and is carried out in close coordination with other donors.

### **G8 New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition**

Mozambique is one of the African countries in the G8 New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition, a commitment by G8 members, African countries, and private sector partners to reduce poverty through inclusive agricultural growth. Under the New Alliance, the Government of Mozambique and G8 members have endorsed a country-specific Cooperation Framework, through which the Government of Mozambique has committed to specific policy actions that will improve the environment for private investment in agriculture and increased agricultural productivity. G8 donors have pledged to align funding behind Mozambique's Country Investment Plan, and private sector partners have signed Letters of Intent outlining their plans for investing in Mozambique's agriculture sector.

### **Nutrition**

Feed the Future focuses on improving nutrition through communication activities that promote social and behavioral change at the community level, targeting the critical 1,000-day window of opportunity between pregnancy and a child's second birthday. Examples of activities include growth monitoring and promotion and innovative agro-processing of nutritious foods. Targeted nutrition interventions coupled with core agricultural programs can achieve better access and use of diverse and quality foods, thereby decreasing undernutrition in the most vulnerable Mozambican households.

### **Gender Integration**

Supporting women in agriculture and household nutrition is essential to the success of the Feed the Future strategy. Agriculture employs 90 percent of Mozambique's female labor force and women manage one quarter of all farming households. Women also have primary responsibility for nutrition in most households. Feed the Future investments strengthen women's participation and leadership roles in farmer organizations, incorporate women in value chain activities, target women with nutrition interventions, and train women to be trainers of other women.

#### **Did You Know?**

- **80%** of Mozambique's workforce is employed in agriculture
- **54%** of the population lives in poverty (under \$1.25/day)
  - **44%** of children under five years are stunted