

Mozambique Poverty Diagnostic Report: An Overview of the JMF

The Jorge Machalela Foundation (JMF), in partnership with several governmental and non-governmental organizations, has conducted a comprehensive survey of poverty, health, education and socioeconomic conditions in Mozambique. This assessment was prepared based on data collected from sources such as the National Institute of Statistics (INE), the Ministry of Health, the United Nations (UN) and other local and international NGOs, highlighting the challenges the country faces.

Poverty Levels in Mozambique

Population below the poverty line: Approximately 63% of the Mozambican population lives below the poverty line (less than US\$1.90 per day), with a more significant concentration in rural areas.

Most affected regions: The provinces of Zambézia, Nampula and Cabo Delgado are the poorest, with alarming levels of food insecurity, lack of access to basic services and high illiteracy rates.

Global Comparison

Mozambique is one of the poorest countries in the world, ranking 181st in the 2023 Human Development Index (HDI). In the global context, around 9.2% of the global population (approximately 689 million people) lives in extreme poverty.



Illiteracy Levels

Illiteracy Rate in Mozambique: The illiteracy rate in Mozambique is 39.9%. Among women, the rate is higher, reaching 45%, especially in rural areas and in the poorest provinces.

Impact on education: Lack of access to quality education is one of the main factors perpetuating the cycle of poverty, with many children leaving school early due to lack of resources and infrastructure.

Malnutrition and Food Security

Chronic Malnutrition Rate: Approximately 43% of children under 5 years of age suffer from chronic malnutrition, with a higher prevalence in the rural regions of Tete, Cabo Delgado and Nampula.

Hunger and Food Insecurity: Around 24% of the Mozambican population faces severe food insecurity, with conditions exacerbated by drought, floods and armed conflict in the north of the country.

Health and Diseases

HIV/AIDS: Mozambique has one of the highest rates of HIV in the world, with a prevalence of 12.4% among the adult population. There are approximately 2.2 million people living with HIV in the country.

Malaria: Malaria remains one of the leading causes of death in the country. Mozambique recorded around 10 million cases of malaria in 2022, with a high infant fatality rate.

Impacts of Drought and Floods

Droughts and Floods: Climate change is having a devastating impact on Mozambique. Droughts are mainly affecting the Gaza, Inhambane and Tete regions, resulting in crop failures and increased hunger. Around 1.5 million people are expected to be severely affected by droughts in 2023.

Floods and Cyclones: Recurrent floods and tropical cyclones, such as Cyclone Idai in 2019, have affected millions of people, with the number of internally displaced people reaching 500,000.

Agriculture and Sustainability

Agricultural Dependence: Around 70% of the Mozambican population depends on subsistence agriculture, which makes them vulnerable to climate disasters and food security crises.

JMF Agricultural Empowerment Programs: JMF, in collaboration with local partners, has introduced initiatives to improve the resilience of farming communities by promoting sustainable farming practices and the introduction of new agricultural technologies.

Regions with Greatest Social Vulnerability

The regions with the highest incidence of poverty and vulnerability are:

- Cabo Delgado: Armed conflicts and the humanitarian crisis have worsened extreme poverty.
- Zambezia and Nampula: High levels of illiteracy, chronic malnutrition and lack of infrastructure.
- Tete and Gaza: Severely affected by droughts, with high rates of hunger and malnutrition.

Conclusion and Intervention of J MF

The Jorge Machalela Foundation (JMF), aware of the immense challenges Mozambique faces, works tirelessly to mitigate the effects of extreme poverty, hunger, malnutrition and humanitarian crises. Through initiatives focused on Education, Economic Empowerment, Food Security, Health and Disaster Preparedness, JMF is committed to transforming lives and creating a sustainable and inclusive future.

Data Sources: This report was prepared using data collected by Mozambican government agencies, international and local NGOs, and through partnerships with organizations such as the UN, World Bank and INE, reflecting J MF's ongoing efforts to improve the living conditions of the Mozambican population.