

# General Info

On 22 March, the first confirmed case of COVID-19 was announced in Mozambique. The Government took an early response to avert the rapid spread of the virus. The measures included significant travel restrictions, the suspension of all public and private schools, from pre-primary through university levels, the ceasing of all events involving more than 20 people, and the implementation of mandatory preventive measures in all institutions. The Ministry of Health has also established treatment and isolation centers and Rapid Response Teams in all provinces. A state of emergency was declared on 30 March 2020, moving to phase 3 restrictions (out of 4 phases). On 29 April, the Government extended the State of Emergency for a further 30 days, until 30 May 2020.

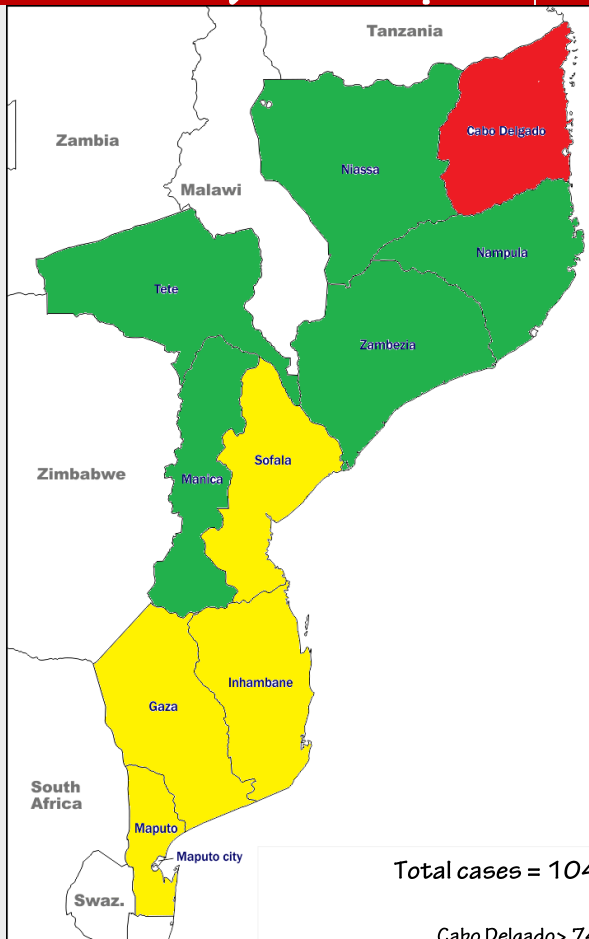
# COVID-19 Mozambique Sitrep#3

13  
May  
2020

This week, new cases were reported for the first time in the provinces of Sofala with 4 infected (4%), Inhambane (1%) and Gaza with (1%), bringing to a total of 5 provinces with confirmed cases. As of 12 May 2020, the country had 104 confirmed cases of COVID-19, 23 more than reported a week ago. Cabo Delgado continues to be the hotspot of the pandemic, with 74 (71%) out of the total cases, followed by Maputo, with 25 cases (24%). Most of the new cases are through local transmission, and this includes include two Chinese and one Brazilian national. One of the cases defined as an imported case coming from South Africa is a 26 year old Mozambican who was recently repatriated along with other 399 Mozambicans.

Of big concern, is the fact that two of the new cases are children aged 7 months and 10 years old, both in the city of Beira, in the central province of Sofala. This is the first time children are reported as COVID-19 positive cases.

Despite the significant efforts that the Minister of Health and partners are making to reduce the spread and impact of the pandemic in Mozambique (raising awareness of urban and rural populations with tailored messages for each context, active epidemiological surveillance of all suspected cases, contact tracing, among others), it is very possible that the situation could become significantly worse, and the country's already weak health system could rapidly become overwhelmed. There are an estimated 2.2 million Mozambicans living with HIV, and millions more with other chronic underlying health conditions. An exponential rise of COVID -19 infections across the country would create massive disruption and knock-on effects in education, employment, and the economy. Based on the models from a recent report by the Imperial College (London) COVID-19 Response Team, ['The Global Impact of COVID-19 and Strategies for Mitigation and Suppression'](#), the impact of COVID-19 on Mozambique is likely to be significant and rapid action is needed to prevent many deaths. The worst scenarios suggest that 94% of the population will become infected by the virus,

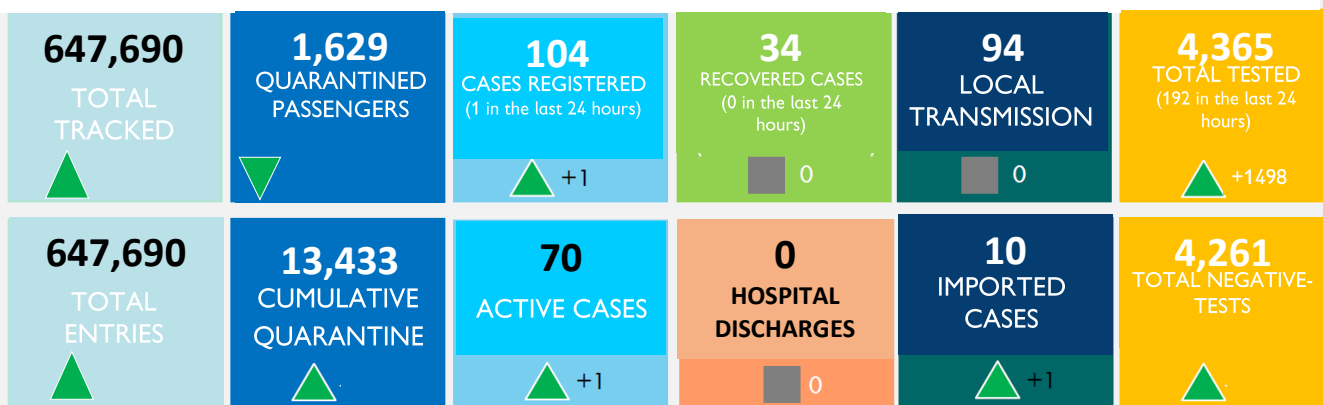


Total cases = 104

- Cabo Delgado > 74
- Maputo > 24
- Sofala > 4
- Inhambane > 1
- Gaza > 1

# of new cases since last sitrep > 23  
Local transmission > 94  
Imported cases > 10

## Epidemiological situation in Mozambique as of May, 12, 2020



between 61,000 and 65,000 Mozambicans will die, and at the peak, 190,000 people will require hospital beds of whom 32,000 will need critical care, far beyond the capacity of the health services.

0 | Total deaths | 0 | New deaths

Source: Ministry Of Health, Mozambique—<https://covid19.ins.gov.mz/>

# Response Updates

## Government:

This week, Health authorities said that they are organising a shipment of new testing kits, but recognized that no mass testing is foreseen.

This is because, according to the Ministry of Health, there is no evidence of cases of mass community infection and so there was no need for indiscriminate testing, and instead testing should be done within the comprehensive system of active surveillance already in progress. Other developments:

- The Minister of Health announced on Monday, 11 May, the deployment of senior staff from his Ministry to the provinces affected by the pandemic to assess and reinforce the ongoing efforts with regard to screening and assessment of contacts.
- Due to the emergence of new outbreaks of local contagion, the Government highlighted the need to increase preventive measures,

*The Government of Mozambique announced on Sunday, 10 May, that it has ordered new testing kits from producing countries, but it is expecting challenges of transportation due to the border blockades that many countries have imposed to stop the spread of COVID-19.*

with emphasis on the need for people not to leave home if it is not extremely necessary.

- The Government continues to be strongly committed to raising the awareness of communities using radio-broadcast messages and message cards on social networks, in particular Facebook and Whatsapp.
- According to the [UN](#), the Mozambican Police detained 899 people for the crime of disobedience to the measures in place during the current State of Emergency, as of 7 May.

SCIMOZ is now ready to be aired (snapshot below). It will also be shared via social media (and actively disseminated in our target communities) and broadcast on the main television channels (TVM and STV), and on 17 different radio stations.

The videos address issues such as the importance of hygiene and social distance as ways to contain the spread; tips on how children can contribute at home during confinement; and why it is important for groups at risk, such as the elderly and chronically ill, to stay in an environment away from children.

To further raise awareness, SCIMOZ, together with other partners, supported the Ministry of Health to develop a set of Fact Sheets to be shared with different audiences through digital platforms. Some examples are (only available in Portuguese):

- ⇒ [Recomendações para grupos de risco](#)
- ⇒ [Conteúdos para profissionais de saúde](#)
- ⇒ [Uso de luvas](#)
- ⇒ [O que devo fazer se ficar doente com a COVID-19?](#)

Last week we completed a rapid consultation involving 768 people (201 women, 195 men, 195 girls and 177 boys) across 6 provinces where SCI is operating to gather a fuller understanding of the levels of understanding on COVID-19 and the impact that this is having on the day-to-day lives of children and their caregivers. ↓



## Save the Children:

Save the Children remains an active partner of the Government of Mozambique, and the relevant clusters addressing Child Protection, Health, WASH, Livelihoods and Food Security, Nutrition and Education to ensure that COVID-19 preparedness, prevention and response activities are child sensitive, support the most vulnerable children and communities, and address the secondary impacts on health, nutrition, education, water and sanitation, child protection, child poverty, and child rights governance.

We are supporting the main 3 networks of Civil Society organizations working in the area of children's rights in Mozambique with a position paper to be submitted shortly to the Prime Minister's Office. This document is a call for redoubled efforts by the Government to ensure an effective response and mitigation of the impact of COVID-19 on vulnerable children in Mozambique. SCIMOZ also collaborated with these 3 networks in the development of the [Risk Assessment](#), a document that helps to understand how the response to COVID-19 can negatively affect children and which mitigation measures are appropriate for each identified scenario.

Save the Children operates in Sofala, a province where four cases of COVID-19 were detected for the first time this week. Of these, two relate to children. This situation calls our attention to intensify our ongoing efforts to support the provincial health authorities in Sofala and to increase our community-led interventions to prevent against and prepare for COVID-19. Sofala was the province hardest hit by cyclone Idai in March 2019 and it is still struggling to recover.

One of the three child-friendly [animated videos](#) produced by

## Save the Children (Cont'd):

We are currently analyzing the results and will share the findings shortly. These findings will help inform our COVID response and communication approaches, so we can better tailor our work to the different contexts.

The Country Office also supported the Ministry of Health this week to develop a set of COVID-19 training guides and materials for community health worker's trainings (only in Portuguese):

- ⇒ [Guião prático de capacitação para actores comunitários](#)
- ⇒ [Formação para actores comunitários sobre a COVID-19](#)



Community members test 1 tip-tap, out of a total of 42 assembled over the past week in Zambezia province

At a time when children are permanently at home due to the spread of COVID 19, SCIMOZ heard their concerns over video messages, which will be shared this week on our digital platforms. In these videos, children express their concerns about the fact that the state of emergency is not being properly followed, with many children showing up, unprotected, in markets and other crowded public spaces. They condemn the attitudes of some parents and guardians of children who force them to do jobs outside the home, such as selling in markets or taking

water from water points. They also highlight that many parents let their children continue their usual social interactions with other children, like playing football. They make an appeal for everyone to be patient at this difficult time as it will pass soon. This past week, SCIMOZ in the province of Zambezia has been training members of the Community Coordination Committees (CCC) under the Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) program to support parents and guardians of pre-school children. The trainings cover advice on how to take care of children in COVID-19 times, information on children's (especially girls') rights, health and nutrition, and how to support children's learning at home. Summing up our interventions during the last week:

- Through the Kudziua project, financed by AICS - Italian Agency for Development Cooperation, SCIMOZ trained 48 CCC members under the ECCD program'. They will, in turn, organise meetings and manage trainings for parents and guardians to disseminate information on COVID-19 and children's rights. 4 ECCD animators and 1 gender animator were also trained (in collaboration with Rede Hopem).
- Community Change Agents in Zambezia held 90 meetings in the province of Zambézia, reaching about 1,000 people of which 581 were women.

## Planned Reach and Budget

Theme	# of Beneficiaries
Child Poverty	102,211
Child Protection	7,180,786
Crossthematic	38,939
Education	2,976,272
WASH	71,654
Health & Nutrition	597,075
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,966,937</b>
Response Budget	
<b>Response Target</b>	<b>7,320,000</b>
<b>Secured</b>	<b>1,100,000</b>



Delivery of health equipment to Sussundenga health services in Manica province, to strengthen their to COVID-19 .

## Adapting our Community Engagement approaches in times of COVID-19

In times of COVID-19, when meetings over 20 people are not allowed, Save the Children is embracing a new approach to



reaching communities and spreading the COVID-19 prevention messages: working with fewer beneficiaries and as close as possible to their homes.

Our provincial office in Manica is particularly concerned with ensuring that no family or child is left behind as part of the COVID-19 response, and so they have been adopting this approach, any every precaution is taken to reduce the risk of possible virus spread by our own staff or partners. For example, 123 household visits were made just last week, in the districts of Macossa, Manica, Machaze, Gondola and Sussudenga, reaching 591 people, 361 women and 230 men.

There were also 85 community awareness sessions, attended by 115 women and 104 men. SCIMOZ in Manica also conducted 6 meetings with school council members.

 Save the Children

**#ProtejaUmaGeração**

Trabalhando juntos para que as crianças sobrevivam, continuem a aprender e a ficar seguras durante a pandemia do COVID-19.

