

MEETING MINUTES

4th Steering Committee Meeting of the Mozambique Recovery Facility

Date	April 5 th , 2023
Venue	UNDP Mozambique Office – Avenida Kenneth Kaunda 921/932 Online meeting
Time	09:00 – 11:24 AM
Members:	Government's Reconstruction Cabinet (GREPOC), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), European Union Delegation, Embassies of China, Finland, the Netherlands, Norway Canada (excused) and India (excused). Participants to the 4 th Steering Committee meeting: 32 people (<i>see Annex 1</i>)

Annexes

1. Attendance List
2. Meeting Agenda
3. 2023 Annual Work Plan

Welcome, Agenda & Introduction

The meeting was opened by Christy Ahenkora, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative a.i (Programmes). She welcomed participants (*see annex 1*) to the 4th Steering Committee meeting of Mozambique Recovery Facility and acknowledged the presence of the co-chair of the steering committee, Luis Paulo Mandlate, Executive Director of the Post Cyclone Reconstruction Cabinet (GREPOC), and Her Excellency Stella Pinto Novo Zeca, Secretary of State for Sofala Province, as well as the donor partners EU, Canada, Finland, Netherlands, India, Norway and China. She further recognized the presence of Mrs. Marie Laetitia Kayisire, UN Women Country Representative.

Christy Ahenkora briefly presented the meeting agenda (*see annex 2*) and explained that the conversation during the 4th steering committee meeting will revolve around the progress of MRF, but also to take stock of the challenges and seek guidance on how to move ahead and plans for 2023.

She continued the welcome remarks by introducing Antonio Molpeceres, Resident Representative a.i for UNDP Mozambique Country Office.

Agenda Point 1: Opening Remarks by GREPOC

Engineer Luis Paulo Mandlate, Executive Director of the Post Cyclone Reconstruction Cabinet (GREPOC), initiated his opening remarks by greeting the presential and online participants to the Fourth Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Mozambique Recovery Facility. He specially thanked Her Excellency Stella Pinto Novo Zeca, Secretary of State of the province of Sofala for her driving and encouraging role in the implementation of projects under GREPOC, in particular to the MRF projects.

He further continued his opening remarks by thanking the MRF programme for their prompt response in the recovery and reconstruction after cyclones Idai and Kenneth, principally regarding the construction of schools, markets, provision of livelihoods and recovery of micro and small enterprises.

On behalf of GREPOC, Luis Paulo Mandlate presented some key achievements under the MRF programme in 2022;

- The rehabilitation of 3 Primary Schools in the City of Beira (Palmeiras, Matacuane and Estoril)
- The completion of 6 Schools in the district of Chibabava and 2 in the district of Dondo;
- The completion of 3 health centers in the Districts of Dondo and Cidade da Beira (Sengo, Chinamacondo and Manga Loforte);
- In the area of housing: completion of 454 houses (Beira City, Dondo and Chibabava district), of these 192 rehabilitated and 262 built including toilets;
- The completion of two markets (Tica in the Nhamatada district and Guara-Guara in the Buzi district).

He further explained that in 2022, 10,955 students returned to classes to study in decent classrooms, and with 54,929 people having access to health care as a result of interventions in health facilities. These achievements are the results of a joint effort between partners and the Government, where the improvement of coordination is a constant challenge, especially in the definition of priorities and the sustainability of interventions.

Luis Paulo Mandlate described that the country was in 2023 severely affected by Cyclone Freddy, whose magnitude of damage and losses are similar to Cyclone Idai, especially the provinces of Niassa, Tete, Manica and Sofala with the province of Zambezia being the epicenter of this phenomenon. Engineer Luis Paulo Mandlate, Executive Director of the Post Cyclone Reconstruction Cabinet (GREPOC), ended his opening remarks by reaffirming GREPOC's commitment to continue to coordinate efforts in the resilient recovery of infrastructure and communities affected by cyclones Idai, Kenneth and Freddy.

Agenda Point 2: Remarks on behalf of Local Government

Her Excellency Stella Pinto Novo Zeca, Secretary of State for Sofala Province, started by thanking and commending UNDP and the MRF programme for its flexibility in modifying activities and the plan according to new demand and realities on ground. She reiterated Luis Paulo Mandlate's remarks, of recognizing MRF's efforts and results in reconstructing and building major infrastructure such as schools and social urgent infrastructure particularly in the resettlement areas which enabled vulnerable families in high-risk zones to move to safer zones.

Her Excellency further explained that the work on reconstruction and construction is reducing the number of vulnerable families, and the reduced impact to vulnerable people have been recorded. Some families remain in high-risk and vulnerable zones, others moved and resettled safe areas. Additionally, another positive achievement is that the warning systems are in place now which informs the population at risk of danger which enables them to move to safer zones. This is a major win and has led to reduction of death at times of disasters.

She once again commended the programme for the flexibility and adaptation to new realities, which helped to solve issues. We have witnessed how UNDP changed and adapted priorities, without delaying

the response. UNDP has been re-evaluating the priorities and necessities, at the same time as they have harmonized other interventions. One example is re-prioritization of rehabilitation and reconstruction of crucial infrastructure that were damaged after the latest cyclones, such as Chalane and Eloise.

Below is summary of key remarks made by the Her Excellency Stella Pinto Novo Zeca, Secretary of State for Sofala Province:

- The coordination of the MRF, the government and partners building resilience and the promotion of norms and standards of constructions is commendable and needs to continue as learning from every intervention is key for future success.
- Involvement and consultation with the local communities is a continuous process under the programme. All the discussions taking place during the steering committee meeting have already passed through consultation with the local communities in the districts to re-evaluate that they are adapted to the context and needs of the people.
- H.E gave example of her visit to the resettlement areas of Mandruzi, Mutua and the market where the team met some women and youth that are beneficiaries of the programme. They brought some new elements on how they are now able to capitalize more on the integration of local priorities and needs. The dialogue with the group was fruitful, and the team learned that effective participation and integration of local needs and priorities are very simple elements that are missing for local development planning and strategy.
- With an influx of people coming into the resettlement areas, the team need to know what needs to be done and complement the missing elements.
- While expressing her full satisfaction from substantive contribution for resilient recovery, she invited the partners of the unmet needs of post cyclone as well as the increased demands and needs of affected vulnerable people due to subsequent cyclones in 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 after Idai.
- Emphasized that inter-institutional coordination is crucial. We currently have a good coordination but it is necessary to periodically involve local administration and invite partners, as priorities can change with this involvement and can help to re-adjust activities with good inter agency coordination and flexibility.

Her Excellency Stella Pinto Novo Zeca, Secretary of State for Sofala Province ended her remarks by once again thanked UNDP, & the MRF programme and GREPOC for successful implementation and achieving the results.

Agenda Point 3: MRF Video

One prerecorded video of MRFs project activities on the ground presenting the voice of the vulnerable people was played. The video provided an overview of the Mozambique Recovery Facility programme, mentioning the context from which it emerged, its 3 main pillars of intervention as well as the priority focus on local communities, women and men engaged in recovery of their livelihoods and infrastructure.

Agenda Point 4: Presentation and discussion of MRF Main Achievements to Date

Mr. Ghulam Sherani, MRF Program Manager (UNDP), started the presentation by giving a brief overview of the MRF strategy, the donors and implementing partners such as the GoM, UN Agencies, Un Women, ILO, WFP and UN Habitat and NGOs, private sector, academia and community leaders. He presented the targets districts in 2023 in Sofala (Districts of Beira, Dondo, Nhamatanda, Buzi, Chibabava and Machanga) and in Cabo Delgado (Pemba, Metuge, Macufi, Namuno, Quissanga, Macomia, Montepuez, Ancuabe, Balama, Chiure, Ilha do Ibo). He further explained that the MRF is now assessing the needs of expansion to other districts following Cyclone Freddy (2023), but the expansion depends on additional funding. Since 2019, 1,111,335 people have directly benefited from MRF interventions.

Under pillar I Livelihood and Women's Economic Empowerment, the following activities and achievements have been recorded;

- 187,732 households (938,660 people) participated in temporary employment activities such as construction of fishponds, rehabilitation of farming land, community infra, and cleaning of roads and more.
- 31,787 people participated in self-employment technical skills training and received a start-up kit. 58% were women
- 472 savings and loan association groups created with 15,709 members (57% women)
- 1,862 Entrepreneurs were trained in business skills and 300 received business restarting kits
- 512 women received training and business license
- 303 youth participated in vocational training (52% women)

Under pillar II – Resilient Rehabilitation of Houses and Community Infrastructure, the following achievements have been recorded;

- Dondo District Library, Beira District Administration Complex, Civil Registration Building of Macomia, Macomia, SDPI in Macomia and Police station in Quissanga.
- Construction of 7 rural market blocks with provision of WASH and solar power light completed
- Construction of 8 primary schools with a total of 40 classrooms + 32 administrative offices, 2 secondary schools rehabilitated, 3 primary schools rehabilitated
- Rehabilitation of 3 clinics in Dondo, one clinic in Quissanga and one maternity clinic in Macomia
- Housing construction: 432 houses completed, 328 houses ongoing
- Housing – Rehabilitation – 323 houses targeted. 211 completed 112 ongoing

The risks and challenges faced in 2022 for implementation includes a funding gap of USD 16 M, in addition to extreme weather events such as cyclones, floods and droughts, the capacity of implementing partners, the conflict in Cabo Delgado and the cost of material follow the USD devaluation as a result of the Ukraine war.

Antonio Molpeceres, Resident Representative a.i opened the floor for reflections and questions from the participants.

Agenda Point 5 Discussion and Feedback

- UN Women: Consideration and integration of gender in all components of the programme needed, specifically on economic empowerment
- EU Delegation: EU is very satisfied with the work done under MRF, UNDP and GREPOC. He asked about the government strategy and action plan for prevention to ensure sustainability in the future, while acknowledging that prevention is challenging for a country as Mozambique with regular climate disasters.
- Netherlands requested clarification on the funding amounts which has not yet been used and how this can be used in 2023. The Netherlands requested a review of the budget in order to meet the new challenges, taking into account the scaling up of GREPOC.
- Norway raised the need of speeding up the implementation of the programme considering the needs that are existing for beneficiaries and population.
 - Another point raised was that some of the damaged infrastructure after the cyclones were built from 1975 and have considerable damage. It is important to reflect on the quality of the reconstruction.
 - UNDP is implementing Build Back Better with resilient infrastructure – are there efforts for a paradigm shift by GREPOC that is integrated in the Ministry of Public Works and Housing to change the requirements of constructions and building. Keeping in mind that GREPOC has a short-term mandate.
- Finland raised the issue on resilience and prevention that are important and asked about the strategy to strengthen local partners capacities such as current Implementing Partners from CSOs which are important for the resilience of communities but also for stability and the work with other international partners.
- GREPOC raised the status of funding as the programme is ending in two years with USD 13 M remaining, but there is a funding gap of USD 16.5 M. Considering the current needs, the list of priorities is beyond the total available resources. GREPOC urged the partners to consider about the needs and intervention to see what can be done to cover the deficit.
- GREPOC stated that climate change is here to stay, the partners to work with a vision of prevention and improving resilience in the sense that the next climatic disaster will find the populations and communities better prepared make sure that the damages will be minimum. One example is the reduction of impact witnessed after Freddy where the mortality was 60, compared to Cyclone Idai which was 168. This is thanks to better preparation and the lessons we had from past events. The President of the Republic has informed that it is necessary to work on legal instruments to remain GREPOC as a permanent institution, and this is a work in progress.
- GREPOC: On resilient construction, GREPOC has a list of the elements that have been introduced to ensure resilient construction which naturally will increase the costs of construction. In relation to education, GREPOC provide the technical recommendation approved by the Ministry of Public Works and Housing on how to build resilient infrastructure. GREPOC will continue their work to influence the Ministry of Public Works and Housing, and other responsible ministries to introduce these resilient components on a permanent basis.
- GREPOC further reinforced that the need of applying sustainability to all aspects of the work undergoing currently. One example is to increase the involvement of the sectors and stakeholder

in the districts, provinces and municipalities of where the project is implemented. Decentralization is a key in this process and local institutions in the provinces needs to be further engaged closely.

- Antonio Molpeceres, Resident Representative a.i raised that the needs have grown exponentially the last months, with Cyclone Freddy and spread of cholera. The programme continues to address these needs of the vulnerable people, and we need to look at the finance gap to cater for the needs of the targeted population and MRF.

Ghulam Sherani, MRF Project Manager thanked everyone for their inputs and questions and answered to some points raised. He explained that the additional needs that came because of Cyclone Freddy, and the Crisis modifier will be considered in the programme. MRF is required to support UN in the emergency response, and it is in this context which MRF ahead of the target and delivery. The programme has delivered as planned, but the needs and demands continues to be high.

On the relationship with CSO, Ghulam Sherani explained that the MRF has worked closely with CSOs and CBOs, with positive examples and result of partnership while strengthening their capacities. The programme works closely with women's association, disability associations, and other thematic areas.

Agenda Point 6: Presentation of 2023 Annual Work Plan for approval

Mr. Ghulam Sherani presented the 2023 Annual Work Plan with its 2023 Plan Output and Targets.

Under pillar I – **Livelihood Recovery and Women Economic Empowerment**, a budget of 3,4 M which includes emergency/early recovery support to IDPs in Cabo Delgado funded under the China South-South cooperation fund, and the following activities are planned:

- Livelihood and income generation support for 13,300 heads of households
- Provision of short skills training and start up kits to 2500 vulnerable households
- Establishment of 450 VSLA groups
- 300 most affected and vulnerable MSMEs to receive assistance on business management skills training, access to market and revolving micro grant
- Access and strengthen the capacity of 2 vocational training center
- Facilitate business registration to Women's led groups.

Under pillar II – **Resilient Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Housing and Community Infrastructure**, a budget of USD 8.2 M with the following activities planned. However, the project does not yet have the entire budget to achieve the planned activities.

- Resilient Rehabilitation of 4 Governmental Office Building (2 ongoing in Beira + 2 new)
- Completion of Rehabilitation of 112 houses (ongoing)
- Construction of 323 latrines for rehabilitated houses
- Construction of 328 houses (all ongoing)
- Rehabilitation of Manga Secondary School in Sofala
- Rehabilitation of 15 community facilities (schools, health facilities in Sofala, Nampula and Cabo Delgado – *Zambezia will also be targeted this year*)

As the UNDPs Stabilization programme in Cabo Delgado is now approved, the activities undertaken by MRF in Cabo Delgado at the request from the national authorities, will no longer be taking place under the MRF project.

Under pillar II – **Institutional Capacity Strengthening of GREPOC**, with a budget of USD 659,492, the following activities are planned.

- DRF coordination and operational management system of information
- Disaster Recovery Information Collected and disseminated
- DUATs (land right documents) issued to the households in the resettlement neighborhoods – *critical activity for the implementation of HDP nexus*
- Resilient Construction standards implemented in the recovery interventions

In addition to the AWP, Ghulam Sherani continued the presentation by presenting eight recommendations to be considering by the steering committee members, these recommendations are:

1. Adjust the target on rehabilitation of houses as the project can only rehabilitate a house that is structurally stable, and the target group for this activity is the most vulnerable

population. This group tend to not have houses that are structurally stable unfortunately, and unable to be rehabilitated. In addition to lack of funding, the World Bank project has started and is now rehabilitating 15 000 houses hence the target needs to be revised and reduced to adjust to the funding realities.

2. Revision of Output 6 of pillar II which is Community Disaster Preparedness and Reduction. Due to pandemic, these activities could not be implemented and restarting this component can be challenging. UNDP will also initiate a new project on disaster resilience and social cohesion funded by KOICA which will specifically address disaster preparedness and reduction of communities.
3. Extension of requestion for certain funding – South-South Cooperation. In Cabo Delgado, the project implements activities with funding from two government, India and China & through the South-South Cooperation. Activities could not be implemented within the set timeframe due to challenges in the district of Macomia and Ancuabe, so an extension had to be requested. The funding has a specific time limit and not for the entire duration of the project.
4. Capacity and staff needs – Data and Information Management – Enterprise development. The project management unit of the programme has critical needs of including a Data Management Specialist. A new and robust information management system (ActivityInfo) has been established but require a dedicated full-time staff to work on the system.
5. Collective handover of completed infrastructure – The programme has completed several infrastructures in 2022 that requires a handover, with a participation of the Government and partners.
6. Approval of Annual Work Plan – Over budgeted. The actual resource available for the programme in 2023 is less than USD 10 M but the planned annual work plan requires close to USD 14 M.
7. Joint efforts for resource mobilization to fill the resource gap.
8. Establishment of Technical Oversight group – This technical group would be one step below the steering committee and serve more as a forum to discuss technical issues at an ad-hoc basis. This group can resolve issues and improve and accelerate programme implementation and examine risks.

Mr. Ghulam Sherani raised four most crucial recommendations to be addressed by the steering committee which are the following; is the issue on the resource gap, the adjustment of targets for rehabilitation of houses, and finally the future of the MRF programme which is currently set to end in August 2024 and an discussion for an extension which needs to be initiated. Lastly, the establishment of the technical group was considered as a crucial recommendation to be considered. During the presentation of the annual workplan for 2023, he highlighted the funding constraints the MRF Program is facing. It is in the best interest of all steering committee members to work together to fill out the funding gap. This would enable the programme to allow the programme to continue to be flexible but also build resilience for future disasters.

See Annex 3 for the 2023 MRF Workplan.

Agenda 7: Perspectives and Next Steps, Closing remarks

Mr. Luis Paulo Mandlate, Executive Director of GREPOC requested a roadmap to be included and sent to steering committee members along with the recommendations.

The steering committee agreed on reviewing the list of recommendations presented by Mr. Ghulam Sherani and revert with feedback. The Resident Representative ai, thanked all participants for the vote of confidence and requested the remarks from HE Stella Pinto Novo Zeca, the Secretary of State of Sofala Province, representing the local government. All steering committee members agreed with the proposals and agreed next steps.

Action points

- UNDP to send a duly signed 2023 Annual Work Plan 2023 to Steering committee members
- UNDP will send the list of recommendations, with the budget and justification for consideration for the donors.
- MRF team to suggest members of technical working group and share with SC members

In his closing remark, Mr. Antonio Molpeceres, Resident Representative ai., reiterated some crucial points raised by H.E State Secretary Stella Pinto such as the need of better coordination among development partners to avoid duplication of efforts. He further enforced that the international community, we need to avoid doing the same things without knowing and this needs to be avoided for the benefit of Mozambique. Furthermore, the flexibility of the MRF programme with new realities is crucial. One example is the destruction of the city of Quelimane which a few years ago was unforeseen. This shows that the needs are elevating, and as the State Secretary mentioned, “still there are *many many* needs to be met”. The Resident Representative also reinforced remarks shared by Mr. Luis Paulo Mandlate on the reduction of death following Cyclone Freddy as compared to the deaths caused by Cyclone Idai and neighboring countries although measuring success in this case can be difficult, but this can be caused by the generous contribution of EU, Canada, Finland, Netherlands, India, Norway and China and the work under the MRF programme.

Mr. Antonio Molpeceres opened the floor to final questions and remarks from the participants.

Finally, on behalf of UN Women, Marie Laetitia Kayisire, Country Representative thanked UNDP for the trust and collaboration so far under the MRF programme and reinforced that women continue to be the most vulnerable group in Mozambique and that UN Women is available for any support needed and are ready to work together with MRF.

The Resident Representative ai. Concluded and closed the 4th Steering Committee Meeting at 11:24 AM

Finally, on behalf of UN Women, Marie Laetitia Kayisire, Country Representative thanked UNDP for the trust and collaboration so far under the MRF programme and reinforced that women continue to be the most vulnerable group in Mozambique and that UN Women is available for any support needed and are ready to work together with MRF.

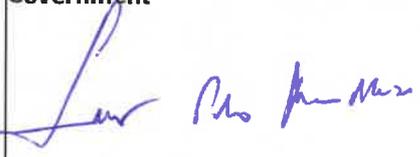
The Resident Representative ai. Concluded and closed the 4th Steering Committee Meeting at 11:24 AM

Acknowledgements

Sincere thanks to the following Mozambique Recovery Facility donors/partners:

- Canada High Commission
- China Embassy
- European Union Delegation
- Finland Embassy
- India Embassy
- Norway Embassy
- The Netherlands Embassy

Signatures

<p>Government</p>  <p>Luis Paulo Mandlate Executive Director, GREPOC Date: 10 April 2023</p>	<p>UNDP</p> <p>DocuSigned by: <i>Antonio Molpeceres</i> D0DAD1532D1B433...</p> <p>Antonio Molpeceres Resident Representative ai, UNDP Date: 12 April 2023</p>
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Annexes

Annex 1: Attendance List

Nr	Institution	Name	Title
1	European Union	Luis Mateus	Project Manager/Cooperation Attache – Cooperation
2	Embassy of Finland	Eeva Alarcon	Deputy Head of Mission/
3	Embassy of Netherlands	Jessica Oppelaar	Intern
4	Embassy of Netherlands	Ernesto Sechene	Policy Officer
5	Embassy of Norway	Carlos Rafael Mate	Advisor
6	Embassy of Norway	Gilberto Norte	Advisor
7	Embassy of China	N/A (online)	N/A
8	GREPOC	Luis Paulo Mandlate	Executive Director – GREPOC Moz
9	GREPOC	Nadia Adriao	Senior Coordinator – GREPOC Moz
10	GREPOC	Zefanias Chitsungo	Urban Planning Specialist – GREPOC Beira
11	GREPOC	Carlito Nhama	Architecture
12	MOPHRH	Oktavio Chicoco	Senior Inspector
13	Sofala Province	HE Stella Pinto Novo Zeca	Secretary of State Sofala Province
14	WFP	Espinola Caribe	Head of Sub-Office
15	UN-Women	Marie Laeititia Kayisire	Country Representative
16	UN-Women	Boaventura Veja	Programme Officer
17	UNDP	Antonio Molpeceres	UNDP Resident Representative
18	UNDP	Christy Ahenkora	UNDP Deputy Resident Representative a.i (Programme)
19	UNDP	Eunice Mucache	Head of Unit – Environment, Natural Resources Climate Change & Resilience
20	UNDP	Ghulam Sherani	MRF Programme Manager
21	UNDP	Tafara Chekai	Head of ICT
22	UNDP	Mateus Fontine	Communication Analyst
23	UNDP	Sergio Julane	M&E Specialist
24	UNDP	Laura Baram	Project Officer
25	UNDP	Juvenia Cohen	Finance Specialist
26	UNDP	Sari Nasseradin	Senior Engineer
27	UNDP	Mogas Canhe	Livelihood Specialist
28	UNDP	Fernando Mboa	Junior Civil Engineer
28	UNDP	Kelvin Coelho	Field civil engineer
29	UNDP	Kamillah Valy	Procurement Analyst
30	UNDP	Isidro Folege	Programme Finance Associate
31	UNDP	Fernanda Varela	Administrative & Finance Assistant

Annex 2: Meeting Agenda

UNDP Mozambique Recovery Facility

4th Steering Committee Mozambique Recovery Facility Meeting Agenda

Venue: UNDP Maputo, UNDP Beira and on-line (Zoom).

Date: 5th April 2023

AGENDA		
09:00 - 09:10	Welcome, Agenda & Introductions	Ms. Christy Ahenkora, DRR/P a.i.
09:10 – 09:20	Opening Remarks	Mr. Luis Paulo Mandlate Executive Director
09:20 – 09:35	Remarks on behalf of Local Government	HE Stella Pinto Novo Zeca Secretary of State Sofala Province
09:35 – 09:40	MRF Video	MRF Team
09:40 – 10:05	Presentation and discussion of MRF Main Achievements to Date	Mr. Ghulam Sherani – Programme Manager
10:05 – 10:15	Remarks	European Union
10:15 – 10:35	Presentation of 2023 Annual Work Plan for approval	Mr. Ghulam Sherani – Programme Manager
10:35 – 11:00	Discussion and Feedback	All
11:00 – 11:15	Perspectives and Next Steps Closing remarks	Mr. Antonio Molpeceres, Resident Representative a.i.

Annex 3: Annual Workplan 2023 – please refer to excel document