



# GAIN MOZAMBIQUE'S PORTFOLIO

## MOZAMBIQUE'S FOOD SYSTEMS: KEY NUTRITIONAL, SOCIAL, AND ECONOMIC CHALLENGES

Despite being rich in natural resources, biodiversity and fertile land, Mozambique's food system faces a triple threat:



### Poor diets

continue to be the number one driver of ill-health and premature mortality in the country



### Climate change

impacting farming practices and livelihoods



### Political and social instability

increasing the food crisis and malnutrition, driven by conflicts

## POOR DIETS

Out of a population of approximately **31.6 million** people<sup>1</sup>



**37%** of children under **5** are stunted<sup>2</sup>

only **13%** of children of **6-23** months of age achieve minimum acceptable levels of dietary diversity<sup>3</sup>



**52%** of women of reproductive age are anaemic<sup>4</sup>



**52%**

## CLIMATE CHANGE

Despite being one of the lowest Greenhouse gas emissions contributors (**0.1** tons per year – a third of the average for all Low-Income Countries) Mozambique is one of the **10** countries most affected by climate change, according to the Global Climate Risk Index.



In the last **3** years, Mozambique was impacted by at least **2** cyclones per year that severely impacted food production.



## POLITICAL AND SOCIAL INSTABILITY

According to IOM/DT, since 22 December 2023, **81,721** people have been displaced due to the attacks or fear of attacks in Cabo Delgado province<sup>5</sup>.



According to the latest Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC, 2023) analysis, nearly **2.6** million people suffer from acute food insecurity in Mozambique. Of these, **126,000** people are in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency)<sup>6</sup>.



<sup>1</sup> National Institute of Statistics, 2022

<sup>2</sup> Family Budget Survey, 2019/20

<sup>3,4</sup> Demographic and Health Survey-IDS, 2022-2023

<sup>5</sup> IOM/DTM, 2023 <https://dtm.iom.int/node/25106>

<sup>6</sup> IPC Mozambique Acute Food Insecurity Malnutrition (May 2023 – March 2024)

To address the triple burden on Mozambican’s Food system, GAIN in Mozambique is focused on innovative, scalable, and impactful initiatives aimed at identifying, updating, and disseminating legislation; developing businesses that produce and distribute safe and nutritious food; and implementing approaches to increase the demand for and the consumption of healthier diets by all Mozambicans.

## 1. ABOUT GAIN

The Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) is a Swiss-based foundation launched at the United Nations in 2002 to combat the human suffering caused by malnutrition. By 2027, our goal is to improve access to nutritionally enhanced staple foods for 1.65 billion people, enable 25 million people to access healthier diets, and support positive food system changes in 13 countries.



Improve the access of **1.65** billion people to nutritionally enhanced foods



Improve the access of **25** million people to healthier diets



Support positive food system changes in **13** countries

This is an ambitious and complex goal that can only be achieved by working together with partners at both the national and global levels. These objectives and methods are grounded in our two-decade legacy of transforming lives through better nutrition, concerted action, and effective policy change.

At GAIN, we work closely with the government, private sector, partners and communities to support inclusive, equitable and coherent food systems transformation. By aligning efforts across sectors, we drive sustainable solutions that improve nutrition and ensure long-term impact. In Mozambique, GAIN has been implementing projects since 2011 and has had a local presence, including offices, since 2013 in the provinces of Sofala, Nampula, Cabo Delgado, and the city of Maputo. We focus primarily, though not exclusively, on provinces facing the highest malnutrition burdens, including Nampula, Cabo Delgado, Sofala, Zambézia, and Manica. We design and implement programs aimed at empowering the most vulnerable, working with organizations that help us reach our goal of improving food systems.

## OUR MISSION

To improve the consumption of healthier diets for everyone, especially the most vulnerable, by improving the availability, affordability, desirability and sustainability of nutritious and safe food and reducing the consumption of unhealthy and unsafe foods.

## OUR VISION

Healthier diets for all, especially the most vulnerable, from more sustainable food systems.



## OUR AREAS OF INTERVENTION



WHO WE WORK WITH	WHO WE SERVE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Private Sector</li> <li>• Government</li> <li>• Policymakers</li> <li>• Civil Society</li> <li>• Researchers</li> <li>• Academia</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Base-of-the-Pyramid consumers and street/market vendors</li> <li>• Pregnant and Lactating Women and Women of Reproductive Age</li> <li>• Children under 2 Years of Age</li> <li>• Adolescents (Aged 10-19)</li> </ul>




## ALIGNING NUTRITION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AT GAIN

While the food systems cause environmental damage, they can also be a solution to environmental challenges. Integrated action for improved nutrition and environmental sustainability requires environmental considerations across production, supply chains, consumption/diets, and food loss and waste.

**ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY**


**WE OPERATE IN THREE KEY PILLARS FOR ENVIRONMENT-CLIMATE-NUTRITION COHERENCE:**

- 1 ADVOCACY**
- 2 PROGRAMMES**
- 3 OPERATIONS**




**1**

Raise awareness of the interlinkages between food systems, nutrition, and the environment and the need of action through alliances and strong partnerships and proactive dissemination and communication



**2**

Generating & mobilising knowledge on sustainable food systems interventions by designing, testing and implementing integrated projects that achieve both environmental and nutritional goals



**3**

Reducing the environmental footprint of our own organisation, modelling & influencing more responsible organisational behaviour and sharing our initiatives to inform (and hopefully inspire) other organisations

## OUR IMPACT BETWEEN 2017 AND 2024



**60** companies supported with WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) equipment



**49** companies received financial support



Creation of a revolving fund for the acquisition of premixes for salt fortification



**32,878** farmers supported with inputs and equipment



Provision of a compactor truck for solid waste collection



**269** vendors and local authorities trained in hygiene, safety, and waste management



**3,170** vendors and **6,830** consumers educated on COVID-19



**26,111** small-scale farmers trained in good agricultural practices



**12** radio spots produced and broadcasted across **28** stations, reaching approximately **3,138,186** people



**2** television spots produced and aired, reaching approximately **1,560,893** people



**13,484** people reached, and **7.9** thousand likes generated through the social media platforms of the Mais Sabor, Mais Vida campaign, which translates to: More Life, More Flavour



**300** street vendors equipped under the Nutribike initiative with **100** bicycles and **200** coolers, enhancing fresh fish handling, safety, and food quality.



**5.4** million servings of nutritious and safe foods produced (including vegetables, eggs, poultry, and fish)



**3** municipal fresh food markets rehabilitated in Beira



**46** water points rehabilitated in Cabo Delgado, benefiting **28,278** people



**21** latrines constructed in **6** schools, benefiting **6,176** students in Mecufi (Cabo Delgado) and Nhamatanda (Sofala)



**4** new boreholes drilled and **2** rehabilitated in Sofala province



**2,000** hygiene kits distributed, benefiting a total of **16,219** people



Over **300** SMEs supported with technical assistance



**25** SMEs supported in business planning



**15** companies supported with workplace nutrition programmes



**6.7** tonnes of iodine imported to support saltworks in iodisation



Creation of **2** regional associations of salt producers



**16,774** lactating women benefited from the programmes



**28,000** adolescent girls have new perspectives on health & nutrition



**2** fresh food markets constructed in Pemba city benefiting over **200** vendors and enhancing access to fresh food for over **40,000** consumers



**4** Dried Fish Warehouses constructed in Sofala, Niassa, and Zambezia Provinces, benefiting over **500** vendors



**4** fish solar dryers constructed in Sofala, Nampula and Zambezia provinces



**5** cooperatives created and formalised



**26** IDPs impacted from the formalisation of local cooperatives



**31** IDP Market vendors trained



National Food systems dashboard launched

## OUR CURRENT PROJECTS

Through our projects, we aim to reach around

**2,800,000** beneficiaries by 2027  
(**1,750,000** direct and **1,050,000** indirect).



**Project:**  
SEAFOOD



**Timeline**  
2024-2027

**Budget**  
\$3,500,000

**Donor**  
Government of  
the Kingdom of  
Norway

The SEAFOOD (Sustainable Economic Advancement Through Fish Opportunities for Optimal Development) project aims to strengthen food systems in Mozambique, with a particular focus on the provinces of Cabo Delgado, Nampula, and Zambézia. The initiative seeks to develop the fishery value chain by promoting sustainable practices, social inclusion, and food security through a blue economy approach.

To achieve this vision, the project will implement the following interventions:

- **Construction of three fish hubs** in three priority districts across the provinces of Nampula, Cabo Delgado, and Zambézia.
- **Installation of cold storage** facilities for preservation and equipment for the safe handling of fishery products.
- **Implementation of the “Nutribike” initiative**, which includes the provision of 300 bicycles, thermal boxes, freezers, and tools for the production, processing, and safe handling of fishery products.
- **Training and capacity-building for fishermen and vendors** in best practices for handling, preservation, and business management.
- **Development of participatory governance plans** and Public-Private Partnership (PPP) models.



### IMPACT EXPECTED:

The project aims to ensure access to safe fishery products for approximately 500,000 consumers, reduce post-harvest losses by around 20%, build capacity to approximately 750 fishermen, and establish three fish hubs.

**Project:  
Nourishing  
Food Systems  
Pathway**



**Timeline**  
2022-2027



**Budget**  
\$720,116



**Donor**  
BMGF, European Commission,  
Global Affairs Canada (GAC),  
Irish Aid, Netherlands  
MFA, Swiss Development  
Cooperation, European Union,  
BMZ Germany

This global programme was created with the primary goal of supporting the implementation of national food system pathways developed from commitments made by countries at the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit (UNFSS). The pathways aim to accelerate global improvements in the consumption of nutritious and safe foods for everyone, especially the most vulnerable, and to ensure food production is environmentally sustainable.

In Mozambique, the programme is implemented through four key areas of work:

- **Support the development and implementation of the “National Pathway 2022–30 for the Food Systems Transformation in Mozambique and its Action Plan”** - Provide assistance and promote better integrated planning, implementation, alignment, and management of national food systems.
- **Incorporate Local Governance of Food Systems and Markets into the implementation of the National Pathway 2022–30** - Supporting local governments to effectively engage with traditional food market leaders, for localised food systems transformation that is gender sensitive, and coherent with the UNFSS National Pathway 2022-30. This is part of a global initiative including cities and markets in Mozambique, Tanzania, and Indonesia.
- **Aligning Food, Nutrition, and Environment** - Promoting better nutrition and environmental sustainability regarding animal-source food production and encouraging consumers to make healthier and more sustainable choices, while minimising environmental impacts.
- **Strengthening Accountability, Understanding, and Learning about Food Systems** - Supporting the development and implementation of national food systems dashboards.



**IMPACT EXPECTED:**

Decision-makers are equipped with enhanced capacity to design and implement inclusive, equitable, and coherent food systems policies, driving progress towards improved nutrition and the transformation of sustainable food systems



**Project:**

**CASCADE (Catalysing Action for Improved Diets and Resilience)**



**Timeline**

2022-2026



**Budget**

\$2,700,000



**Donor**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

This initiative is implemented as a consortium between CARE International and GAIN in the districts of Erati, Nacarroa, and the city of Nampula, with the objectives of (i) improving food security and (ii) contributing to the reduction of malnutrition among women of reproductive age and children under five.

**CASCADE will achieve these goals through two strategic objectives:**

**Strategic Objective 1:** Increase access to and consumption of healthy diets among household members.

**Strategic Objective 2:** Increase household members' resilience to price and climate-related shocks and stresses.

In Mozambique, CASCADE interventions are intended to produce the following intermediate outcomes to achieve the consortium's strategic objectives and the programme's overall goals:

Government actors involved in fortification provide stronger implementation, monitoring, and enforcement of fortification policies.

Target households have increased access to fortified foods.

Private service providers offer affordable, accessible products and services that support healthy year-round diets, particularly for women of reproductive age and young children.



**IMPACT EXPECTED:**

Improved food security and reduced malnutrition for **1,170,378** people, including **825,707** women of reproductive age and **344,671** children under five.

**Project:**  
Improving  
Consumption of  
Animal-Source Food



**Timeline**  
2022-2026



**Budget**  
\$14,500,000



**Donor**  
Ministry of Foreign  
Affairs of the  
Kingdom of the  
Netherlands

This project aims to improve dietary quality by increasing the consumption of animal-source foods (ASF) for 1.1 million Base-of-the-Pyramid consumers across 30 districts in the Beira and Nacala corridors, focusing on convenience, affordability, and pricing of these foods. To reach our goal, GAIN will focus on three food groups (fish, poultry, and eggs), guiding interventions across three main cross-cutting pillars:

- **Desirability:** Developing and implementing a campaign to boost the desire for and consumption of fresh and dried fish, poultry cuts, and eggs, proposing new preparation methods and substitutions for other low-cost options. Communication channels will include radio, TV, social media, in-store promotions, roadshows, and community interactions, such as cooking demonstrations.
- **Accessibility and Affordable Pricing:** This component will focus on last-mile distribution systems (from aggregation points to last-mile retailers), led by the private sector, as well as support for distribution networks by investing in transformation (fish drying technology) and the cold chain (from aggregation/consolidation points to retail).
- **Enabling Environment:** This intervention targets a supportive policy environment as a key factor for sustaining impact on the food environment, targeting policies across three priority areas around ASF: food safety and quality, fiscal measures and incentives, and environmentally sustainable policies.




**IMPACT EXPECTED:**

**1.1** million Low-Income individuals will consume a more diverse and adequate diet, assessed using food frequency and dietary diversity indicators (adults, women).

**Project:**  
**SUN Business Network**



 **Timeline**  
2022-2026

 **Budget**  
\$390,817

 **Donor**  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

The network was created with the mandate to improve and strengthen the private sector's contribution to enhancing nutrition. In this context, the network is co-facilitated by GAIN and WFP, and is operationally coordinated by a Secretariat.

The network aims, on one hand, to create and stimulate synergies among its members to improve the business environment through initiatives that enhance and expand their productivity capacities or create new market opportunities. On the other hand, the network serves as an advocacy mechanism for the private sector regarding various obstacles (legal, regulatory, etc.) that hinder business.




**IMPACT EXPECTED:**

Nutritious foods are made more accessible to Low-Income consumers by improving the enabling environment for companies to contribute to national nutrition goals.

**Project:**  
**Food Systems Dashboard**



 **Timeline**  
2022-2026

 **Budget**  
\$362,000

 **Donor**  
BMGF, European Commission, Global Affairs Canada (GAC), Irish Aid, Netherlands MFA, Swiss Development Cooperation, European Union, BMZ Germany

This platform was developed by GAIN in partnership with government entities (MADER, MISAU, MIC, MTA), Academia (Eduardo Mondlane University), and civil society (Scaling Up Nutrition Civil Society Network).

The platform operates at national, provincial, and municipal levels, providing resources and data on food systems from multiple sources. Its objective is to offer users a comprehensive view of food systems and better inform them about priorities and strategies to sustainably improve the diet and nutrition of Mozambicans.

Initially, the intervention is being implemented in three cities: Beira, Quelimane, and Pemba.



**IMPACT EXPECTED:**

Government has increased capacity to plan and manage food system data, allowing for more informed decision-making.

**Project:**  
Strengthening Food  
Systems in Cabo  
Delgado



**Timeline**  
2022-2025

**Donor**  
Government of the  
Kingdom of  
Norway

**Budget**  
\$7,033,008

This project primarily aims to strengthen and repair the local food system in southern Cabo Delgado, which has been severely affected by conflict, drought, and long-standing underinvestment, as well as in Nampula Province, where many internally displaced persons (IDPs) from Cabo Delgado have settled. Ultimately, the project seeks to improve food access and consumption among the poorest residents of four vulnerable districts in Cabo Delgado and three districts in Nampula Province, including displaced persons from conflict areas and their host households, by improving the availability and accessibility of safe and nutritious food within their communities.

This three-year project is being implemented in the following districts of Cabo Delgado: Metuge, Mecufi, Pemba, and Chiúre; and in Nampula: Meconta, Nacala Porto, and Nampula district, focusing on the following main areas:

- Construction of new fresh food markets in the municipal areas of Pemba and Namialo.
- Capacity building, funding provision, and development of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and cooperatives of internally displaced persons.
- Strengthening local governance functions to improve local food systems.



**IMPACT EXPECTED:**

Increased consumption of safe and nutritious food for over **650,000** people (internally displaced persons and host populations) in the provinces of Cabo Delgado and Nampula.



## PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED (2017-2024)

### TRANSFORM NUTRITION (2019-2024)

Implemented by a consortium led by ADPP Mozambique, with GAIN, UniLúrio, H2N, and VIAMO in Nampula Province, this project used a cross-sectoral, holistic approach to work through government systems at all levels, from the community level, to improve nutritional behaviours and outcomes among pregnant and lactating women, children under two, and adolescent girls aged 10-19.

Within this project, GAIN was responsible for expanding 2 interventions:

EmoDemos (emotional demonstrations) intervention to six districts in Nampula. The initiative aimed to influence behaviour through emotions improving infant and young child feeding practices among mothers and caregivers. Heroine's Game to twelve districts in Nampula. An initiative aimed at promoting healthy eating habits among adolescents. These interventions had been tested in previous projects by GAIN.



### KEEPING FOOD MARKETS WORK DURING COVID-19 (2019-2022)

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, GAIN developed and implemented the KFMW programme to mitigate the risk of economic collapse in food systems and to sustain core food systems, workers, and markets during the COVID-19 emergency. The KFMW programme was active primarily in the provinces of Sofala and Inhambane, later expanded to include Cabo Delgado, with the aim of gaining a better understanding of the specific experiences and challenges faced by the urban food system during the pandemic— particularly in traditional markets that serve as crucial source of food for the most vulnerable communities.

This programme consisted of five workstreams for planned interventions:

- ✓ Strengthening SME Resilience
- ✓ Maintaining and Enhancing Large-Scale Food Fortification Efforts
- ✓ Ensuring Food Markets Remain Open and Operate Safely
- ✓ Investing in Nutritional Security for Key Food System Workers
- ✓ supporting co-design of local policy option toolkits and effective coordination of activities amongst stakeholders



## RECOVERY OF FOOD SYSTEMS POST IDAI & KENNETH (2019-2021)

This programme was developed in response to the devastating cyclones that struck in March/April 2019, rebuilding food systems in Sofala, Manica, and Cabo Delgado. The project focused on restoring local markets to ensure availability, access, and/or consumption of nutritious and safe foods; improving food utilisation (through enhanced drinking water quality and hygiene); and strengthening local governance functions to address food security. GAIN and various consortium partners (IDE, AGRA, HELVETAS, Instituto Oikos ONLUS, and Save the Children) carried out different interventions within this project.



## CATALYSING PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION IN SCALING UP NUTRITION IN MOZAMBIQUE (2017-2021)

This project aimed to promote and support private sector engagement and investment in nutrition interventions to improve diet quality. It focused on the production, processing, distribution, marketing, and consumption of safe and nutritious foods for Low- and Middle-Income populations through public-private partnerships, scaling suitable solutions, and contributing to evidence-based models and interventions by the private sector. The CPSP programme operated primarily in six provinces in northern and central regions with the highest malnutrition rates, providing technical assistance and business development services to SMEs, and fostering workplace nutrition initiatives to increase demand for safer, nutritious foods. The project was implemented in partnership with CTA and the Government.



## FOOD FORTIFICATION, SAFETY, AND QUALITY (2017-2021)

This project encompassed GAIN's food fortification efforts. Over nine years of collaboration with the Government, the private sector, and consumers, GAIN focused on increasing the accessibility and consumption of iodised salt and fortified foods (cooking oil, wheat and maize flour, and sugar) for all Mozambicans, in compliance with national standards. GAIN developed business models and fostered the creation of two regional associations and cooperatives within the salt industry, aimed at implementing revitalisation strategies for the salt sector and its value chain to meet universal salt iodisation targets. This will ultimately contribute to reducing iodine deficiency disorders in Mozambique. GAIN also partnered with the Government to monitor industry compliance with the fortification programme.



## DONORS AND IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS

From 2017 to 2022, GAIN Mozambique successfully established and fostered strong relationships with donors and partners, resulting in a portfolio of approximately **\$20,068,414.00 USD**. The donors and partners involved in GAIN's current programs include:

### DONORS:



### PARTNERS:



## WHO WE CREATED ALLIANCES WITH

### 1 Government

Ministry of Health (MISAU), Ministry of Industry and Commerce (MIC), Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MADER), Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security (MITESS), and the Secretariat of Youth and Sports, Ministry of Sea, Inland Waters and Fisheries, Ministry of Land and Environment. Technical Secretariat for Food and Nutritional Security (SETSAN), National Food Fortification Committee (CONFAM), Institute for the Promotion of Small and Medium Enterprises (IPEME), National Economic Activities Inspectorate (INAE), National Institute of Standardization and Quality (INNOQ), National Laboratory of Hygiene, Water, and Food (LNHAA), National Institute for the Development of Fisheries and Aquaculture (IDEPA), and the municipalities of Beira, Pemba, and Quelimane.

### 2 Donors

Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), Irish Aid, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA), Wright Family.

### 3 Multilateral and Non-Governmental Organisations

International Labour Organisation (ILO), Helvetas Mozambique, International Development Enterprises (IDE), Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), OIKOS Cooperation and Development, Youth Coalition, Theatre of the Oppressed Company (CTO), Girl's Generation Programme, Lúrio University (UniLúrio), and the Organisation of Mozambican Workers (OTM-Central Union), Local market committees, association.

## OUR OPERATIONS

GAIN currently operates four offices to implement its activities. The main office is in Maputo, with three additional offices in the provincial cities of Beira, Pemba, and Nampula.

### Financial and Procurement Capacity

GAIN Mozambique has established a comprehensive financial system that ensures transparency, accountability, and efficient financial procedures, thereby reducing the risk of non-compliance. GAIN regularly updates its policies to mitigate potential risks. GAIN's procurement services rely on transparent and competitive bidding processes, following international practices approved by donors. Regular stock and inventory controls are conducted. Our procurement, administration, and finance departments are independent teams but work closely with program teams to identify and respond to their immediate needs. Although we work with multiple donors, we design our systems to accommodate various donor requests as required.

### Programmatic, Monitoring, and Evaluation Capacity

GAIN Mozambique has experience implementing complex programmatic approaches involving multiple projects that require strategic collaboration with donors and stakeholders. Our program teams combine specialists in nutrition, development, business management, policy engagement, marketing, communication, food safety and quality, and monitoring and evaluation who contribute to the development, implementation, management, and oversight of our multifaceted approaches.

### Communication and Brand Management

GAIN Mozambique has a dedicated Communications and Branding team that designs and implements communication plans, visibility strategies and manages national-level events. The team oversees compliance with GAIN and donor branding guidelines.






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