



The Director-General



The Secretary General

**Gender Action Plan III – 2021-2025 - Updated Country Level Implementation Plan – Mozambique (December 2023)**

*Update 2023: Mozambique's context with regards to gender equality has not experienced major changes since the Country Level Implementation Plan was drafted in 2021. The Government has continued to show political will to promote gender equality and women's empowerment in a challenging context characterised by the protracted crisis in Cabo Delgado, recurrent climate-related emergencies, discriminating cultural factors and increasing poverty and inequality. Despite progressive legislation and strategies, Mozambique continues to face implementation challenges.*

*Since the elaboration of the CLIP, the EU has adopted eight programmes for which gender equality and women's empowerment was a 'significant objective' (G1). These programmes address almost all the objectives identified in the CLIP for Mozambique. A particular attention was paid to the objective to fight gender-based violence, which was the object of two targeted interventions (G2, with an allocation of EUR 15 million). The 11 Member States present in Mozambique are also very engaged in the promotion of the GAP III objectives. The EU and MS regular political dialogue with the Government has continued to include issues related to gender equality, such as gender based violence and the situation of women and girls in the conflict-affected northern region. Dialogue with CSOs has taken place on an ad-hoc bases, but a structured dialogue is being set up and should start in 2024. The EU and MS monitor the implementation of the CLIP through the Citizenship and Gender Group.*

## **1. Context for EU action gender equality and women's empowerment in the country**

Despite significant economic growth in the last decade and the discovery of important reserves of natural resources, Mozambique remains one of the bottom ten countries in the world in terms of human development<sup>1</sup>, aggravated by increasing inequality in the last years. In a country with the second largest population in the Southern Africa region, 55% of the population live in poverty<sup>2</sup>. Recent data from the National Institute of Statistics (INE), shows that Mozambique has a total population of 32,4 million

<sup>1</sup> The 2019 UNDP Human Development index report ranked the country in the 181th position out of 189 countries.

<sup>2</sup> Data relates to the 2015-2020 period. Poverty rate increased to 62.8% at the peak of the Covid-19 crisis. 'Poverty Reduction Setback in Times of Compounding Shocks' Mozambique Poverty Assessment, World Bank, June 2023.

habitants: 50.9% women and 49.1% men. The country is experiencing rapid population growth at 2.5%, and high fertility with an average rate of 4.9 children per woman. Life expectancy at birth is 55,7. Around 65.34 % of its population lives and works in rural areas and 45 % of Mozambicans are under 15 years of age. According to the preliminary report of the Health Survey (INE, July 2023), 36% of young and adolescent women from 15-19 years old, have been pregnant at least one time. Despite gains in gender equality achieved in the latest years, poverty and inequalities have a strong gender component in Mozambique: women and girls are worse off than men and boys in almost every area of life. Social and cultural factors continue to discriminate and exclude women and girls from the social, political and economic life. This situation is perpetuated by traditional beliefs that women belong to the private and reproductive sphere, and men belong to the public and productive domain. The UNDP 2019 Gender Inequality Index Report ranks Mozambique on the 127th position in a group of 162 countries.

The updated Country Level Implementation Plan (CLIP) is based on the analyses of the 2022 Gender Country Profile developed jointly by UNWOMEN and the EU, and the 2021 Conflict Analysis for Mozambique. New data from the 2022 Household Survey and 2023 Health Survey (National Institute of Statistics) were incorporated to the updated CLIP. The CLIP is also in line with the Human Rights and Democracy Country Action Plan 2021-2024 and the Roadmap for Engagement with Civil Society 2021-2027. The CLIP was updated in collaboration with the 11 EU MS in Mozambique: Austria, Belgium-including Flanders, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Ireland, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain-including the Andalusian Agency and the Catalan Agency, and Sweden. Two NGO umbrella organisations were invited to comment and input on the updated CLIP. The CLIP benefited also of contributions from the recently created Youth Sounding Board (YSB) for Mozambique.

### **1.1- *Overview of the gender equality situation in the country, the state of play of the implementation of the national gender policy***

Mozambique has a fairly well-developed constitutional and legislative framework aimed at ensuring gender equality. The Constitution of 2004 explicitly recognizes the principle of equality before the law for men and women. The 2005 Family law removed formal discriminatory regulations, and the 2009 Domestic violence law made violence against women a public and not a private offence. The Five Year Government Plan (2020-24) seeks to promote gender equality in all areas and ensure the protection of the most vulnerable with an emphasis on gender-based violence, child protection, as well as premature marriages, trafficking and sexual abuse.

The country has a Gender Policy and Implementation Strategy<sup>3</sup> (revised in September 2018), a National Plan for Preventing and Combating Gender-Based Violence (2018-2021, currently being assessed) and a National Plan on Women, Peace and Security (2019-2022, also under review). The former National Strategy for Preventing and Combating Premature Unions (2016-2019) will be included in the National Action Plan on Children. The Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Action has the mission to coordinate and promote actions towards gender equality. In 2020, the Council of Ministers approved the Gender Strategy for Public Administration 2020-2024. The Strategy requires the appointment of gender focal points in all public institutions. It is to be noted that gender focal points generally have limited technical knowledge and financial resources, and little involvement in decision making processes.

Since 2018, the Government has reinforced its commitment to gender equality by approving key legislation, namely for: i) the harmonization of the legal age of marriage and civil unions for both boys and girls to 18 years and the provision of legal sanctions for adults involving or facilitating child

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<sup>3</sup> <http://forumulher.org.mz/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/POLITICA-DE-GENERO-e-Estrategia-Implementacao-APROVADA-CM-11.09.2018000.pdf>

marriage (Law on the Prevention of Early Unions, 2019); ii) stronger punishments for various forms of violence, including sexual violence, physical violence and sexual harassment (revised Criminal Code adopted in 2019); iii) removing the condition that parents can give consent for girls under the age of 18 to marry and eliminating pregnancy as a condition to marry under the age of 18 (revision of the Family law, 2019); iv) revoking the decree 39/2003 which discriminated pregnant girls by making it mandatory for them to be transferred to night courses in schools (2018); and, finally, v) the inheritance law (July 2019) which changes women inherit rights by allowing the widow to be called to the estate as a legal successor competing on equal footing with the descending and ascending heirs. These legislative reforms were approved thanks to very active campaigning from women's associations, combined with the commitment of some government representatives to advance the gender agenda and advocacy from development partners.

Mozambique has also ratified a number of international and regional instruments aimed at promoting gender equality and women's rights, namely: the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) (ratified in 1993); the Declaration of Beijing (ratified in 1995), the SADC Gender and Development declaration (ratified in 1997) followed by the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development (2008); and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, also known as the Maputo Protocol on Women's Rights (ratified in 2005).

In spite of the above-mentioned progressive legislative framework, the lack of enforcement, **implementation and monitoring remains the key challenge**. Women and girls are often unaware of their rights, and the judicial system is not yet prepared to deal with a gender-sensitive justice and facilitate access to justice for women. This is partly explained by the idea that 'gender' is about women and not about equal rights and opportunities and equal sharing of power between men and women. The 2019 CEDAW report on Mozambique welcomed all legal progress made by the country to strengthen the legal framework but it pointed that lack of enforcement alongside with lack of investigations and prosecutions in cases of gender-based violence against women and on the penalties imposed on perpetrators of gender-based violence remain a challenge.

## **1.2- *Priority areas of the Multi-annual Indicative Programme: challenges and opportunities***

The Multi-annual Indicative Program 2021-2027 aims at supporting Mozambique's transformation through economic, social and political inclusion. With this goal, the EU will focus on the following three priority areas in the forthcoming period:

### **Growing Green:**

Mozambique is one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change and weather-related disasters in the world. Mozambique is also a unique shrine of biodiversity with globally important ecological regions. The country is moreover in search of an inclusive and sustainable development model, on the one hand capable of balancing the acceleration expected from the exploitation of its gas resources, and on the other hand dealing with the political and social fractures still marring the country's structural cohesion. EU action under this priority area will focus on protecting and developing the natural capital of Mozambique, redoubling efforts to safeguard the country's ecosystems and biodiversity. This fundamental building block will be complemented and reinforced by the support to the transformation of production patterns in the agriculture, forestry and fishery sectors, which are able to intensify production sustainably. Investments in climate-smart, low-carbon and resilient infrastructure will represent the third strand of work, contributing to the long-term impact both in terms of mitigation and adaptation through gender sensitive lenses.

EU action in this area has an important potential to impact the life of Mozambican women and girls. As in most African countries, in Mozambique women are disproportionately affected by **climate change**. Being more dependent on natural resources for their livelihoods, women are more exposed to natural disasters, droughts, floods and recurring cyclones that have been affecting Mozambique in the last years (particularly Iдай and Kenneth in 2019, Gombe in 2022 and Freddy in 2023). Limited access to basic services, including food and shelter, increases the risks of the vulnerable population and exposes women and girls to unsafe environment. Given this context, the 2014 Gender and Climate Change Action Plan called for further involvement of women in decision-making processes, and in the training and management of climate change response platforms so that they are better equipped to adapt to climate change. Given that women and girls are exposed to gender-based violence, including sexual exploitation and abuse, all emergency plans and crisis management require that specific Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) are put in place.

The country's economy is essentially dependent on **agriculture**. Women represent 62 % of the labour force in the agriculture sector, which employs the vast majority of women labour force in the country (83 %)⁴. Despite this predominance, women occupy the lower echelons in the value chains, making up the majority of the sectors' unskilled labour and have mainly access to informal markets. Existing gender norms around land property, usage and inheritance lead to women having less control and ownership of land tenure, limited access to agrarian extension services, technologies, credit and training. Growth potential outside the informal sector is limited by financial illiteracy⁵. Households headed by women are on average around 20 % less productive than those headed by men, especially in the central and northern regions of Mozambique. Finally, only 25% of women own land exclusively despite the fact of agriculture being their main source of income.

With regards to **infrastructure**, it is important to note that while adequate access to water and sanitation is necessary to ensure a healthy and productive society, in Mozambique, almost 50% of the total population remain without access to clean sources of water. Access to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) has a strong gender dimension in Mozambique. On the one hand, some of the challenges of poor quality and access to these services affect women exclusively because of their sex. On the other hand, other factors are associated with gender social standards. The lack of menstrual hygiene management facilities and health benefits pose challenges for girls to attend school and continue their studies. The COVID-19 pandemic exposed the importance of WASH in the education sector. In a country where 80 % of health centres do not have water and energy, giving birth exposes women and new-borns to additional health risks due to increased exposure to infections. Finally, where water is not available on the spot, women are most often those who bear the burden of collecting water for household consumption and household tasks. This activity limits the opportunity for women to carry out other productive activities and girls to fully attend school. Mozambique has a limited transport network. Women are less likely to own a means of transport, which circumscribes them to a smaller radius in their everyday life than men, thus limiting their chances for education and employment. The limited transport network is also an issue for accessing health services, which compromises not only women's health but also that of all the household, given the social norm according to which women are generally responsible for children and the elderly.

Mozambique has the largest power generation potential in Southern Africa, however only 28% of the population, mostly residents in urban areas, has access to electricity⁶. Solid fuels and traditional biomass, such as wood and charcoal, are the main source of fuel and women tend to be more involved in this

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⁴ Yet only a minority of small and medium size agriculture explorations are headed by women: 21.3% in Nampula province, 28.7% in Zambezia province (MASA/DPCI *Inquérito Agário Integrado* 2015).

⁵ For example, the literacy rates in Nampula in 2009 were 41.2%, with 58.6% in male and 23.9% in female population.

⁶ [https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1865/Engendering-Utilities\\_EDM\\_Mozambique.pdf](https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1865/Engendering-Utilities_EDM_Mozambique.pdf)

sector. The use of such sources of energy has deleterious effects on both people and the environment, such as the loss of vegetation and health problems associated with the carrying of fuel wood and indoor pollution. Women and girls are also the main bearers of fuel collection, cooking and other household chores, which limits their ability to engage in other productive activities<sup>7</sup>.

### **Growing Youth:**

Mozambique has a remarkably young age structure. Youth (aged 10–35) accounts for almost half of the total population, but its potential is far from being reached. In order to unleash the full potential of the youth, the EU will support efforts that ensure adequate nutrition and food security, more and better investment in inclusive quality education, the creation of more employment opportunities by integrating green and digital skills into education and training in a thriving trade and business climate to ensure the consolidation of the country on the path of sustainable growth.

Good **nutrition** is essential to human and economic development and is intrinsically connected to reduced inequalities. Women and children (girls and boys) are both the most vulnerable and those most likely to drive change. Indeed, gender relations affect food distribution among men, women and children, with an impact on the absorption of nutrients by pregnant women and consequences for the development of the unborn child, as well as after delivery.

Mozambique has achieved progress towards universal access to schooling. There has been progress on gender parity, as well as a timid expansion of pre-schooling. The 2022 Household Survey shows a decrease on the percentage of people that cannot read or write from 39.9 % in 2019/20 to 38.3 % in 2022. However, there still substantial disparity between illiteracy rates for men (25.9 %) and women 49.20 %. School completion rates remain low: over 50% of the Mozambican children do not complete primary **education**. Girls continue to face particular challenges in progressing through the education system. School enrolment significantly diminishes as the level of education goes higher for both sexes but with worse situation for girls. For example, in 2022 only 42.1 % girls enrolled in lower secondary education compared to 44.8 % for boys. Many factors impact the low levels of girls' retention, including early marriages (50% of girls marrying before the age of 18, Mozambique remains the 10th highest rate of child marriage) and teenage pregnancies. Support to sexual reproductive health and rights (SRHR) provisions are a key factor to retain girls in school, including the supply of sexual and reproductive health services.

With regards to **digitalization**, Mozambique has one of the world's lowest level of cell phone ownership (46 % of women, 56 % of men) and internet access (17 % for women and 27 % for men). According to the Digital 2023 Global Overview Report<sup>8</sup> there were 6.92 million internet users in Mozambique at the start of 2023, when internet penetration stood at 20.7 percent. 36.1 percent of total internet users have access to social media platforms, 42.5% women and 57.5 men. Low levels of internet use are attributed to issues related to accessibility of internet-enabled devices such as computers and smartphones; ability to pay connectivity costs; education (digital literacy and skills); and lack of electricity, which affects half of the population especially in rural areas. As women are more concentrated among the poor, with lower levels of education and gainful employment, they are disproportionately marginalised from the benefits of ICTs to enhance their well-being. Given that access to internet allows expanding socio-economic opportunities, education, work, civil participation and activism, culture, etc, this context leads to the exclusion of a significant part of the population, especially rural woman. Finally, COVID-19 made even more evident the need to invest and scale up digitalisation to allow new models of teaching and

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<sup>7</sup> [https://www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/publications/TM3-Africa\\_Gender-and-Energy.pdf](https://www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/publications/TM3-Africa_Gender-and-Energy.pdf)

<sup>8</sup> [Digital 2023: Mozambique — DataReportal – Global Digital Insights](#)

learning, work and entrepreneurship. The COVID-19 crisis transformed the digital space into also a space for political debate as well an opportunity for women and youth to express themselves and make their voices heard.

The Mozambican economy is characterised by its high degree of informality and a reduced formal sector: “more than 90 % of the employed are self-employment or unpaid family workers”<sup>9</sup>. Agriculture represents the main source of **employment** for women, followed by informal trade and domestic work. Outside the agricultural sector, women are more active in trade and services. Socio-cultural factors contribute greatly to the discrimination and exclusion of women and girls from social, political and economic life and are locked out of economic opportunities resulting in an increasing feminization of poverty. There are also enormous differences on access to formal credit. According to data from the Bank of Mozambique the credit portfolio of national credit institutions is composed of only 29% of women against 79% for men. Technical and vocational education and training (TVET) should be more market-oriented and deliver skill-sets that enhance employability of youth and particularly young women, in close synergy with the needs of the private sector. A continued challenge in the TVET is the unequal presence of women, with analysis showing that women’s enrolment is only of about 30% and a limited presence of women trainers too. Gendered stereotypes greatly influence choices of courses, leaving women absent from Sciences Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEMs) oriented courses. Women with related qualifications often face discrimination in the labour market too. There is need for greater gender sensitive TVET policies, management, institutional procedures as well as tackling sexual harassment and bullying in TVET institutions.

### **Governance, Peace and a Just Society:**

Mozambique has launched structural reforms to ensure constitutional rights, promote justice, good governance, public integrity, decentralization, and sustainable development. However, most governance related indicators have followed a negative trend in recent years. The implementation of the Maputo Peace Agreement has led to greater pacification in the central region, with the completion of the demobilisation and disarmament of 5 221 ex-combatants (of which 257 women) and their progressive reintegration into their communities. Since 2017 Mozambique has faced violence in the resource-rich northern province of Cabo Delgado, where the conflict has already claimed around 4 000 lives and resulted in high numbers of internally displaced people (estimated at 627.000, mostly women and children in 2023).

Good governance and peace are closely interrelated. Some of the governance challenges are key drivers of the conflicts currently affecting Mozambique. Under this priority, the EU will seek to promote good democratic and economic governance (i.e. the rule of law, access to and quality of justice, the fight against corruption, credible and inclusive electoral processes, independent and pluralistic media, human rights, and strengthened domestic revenue mobilisation and public financial management) as well as social cohesion and conflict-sensitive interventions through an integrated approach, i.e. a humanitarian-development-peace triple nexus to reinforce peace and stability and to prevent further spread of violent extremism. The integrated approach also supports the role of women as community peace promoters, in line with the women, peace and security agenda.

In this area, it is important to mention that Mozambique is a global reference for its political commitment to **women’s participation in decision-making** and sovereign bodies. Since 2022 Mozambique joined a group of only 14 countries in the world that achieved gender parity in the Council of Ministers (10 of the 20 ministers are women). With regard to parliamentary representation, 42.4 % of seats are held by

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<sup>9</sup> Mozambique finscope (2014), Consumer Survey.

women. The road to gender parity is however more advanced at central level. As we look at positions of sovereignty at secondary and tertiary levels (province, district and municipality), the gap becomes more visible. Following the October 2023 local elections, of the 65 municipalities only 5 will be governed by women. At community level, traditional and community leaders play a key role: besides ruling the daily lives of a great part of the population, they bridge communities and government institutions, and act as referral entry points for cases of violence and access to justice. They are mostly men since women's participation and representation at community level is extremely low.

With regards to gender equality and **women's rights**, despite Mozambique's progressive legislative framework, lack of implementation is a key challenge. Early marriages and pregnancies and **sexual and gender based violence (SGBV)** continue to be major challenges Mozambique is one of the eight African countries that has benefitted from the Spotlight initiative, which contributed to put in motion a positive collaboration between Government, women's associations and EU/UN that brought about concrete achievements. Given the size of the challenges, fighting SGBV will require a longstanding commitment, and efforts in this area should continue in the coming years. The main perpetrator of physical and sexual violence against women tends to be the intimate partner or someone in the family sphere. Some studies point that many women consider that violence perpetrated by a husband/partner is justified and acceptable as punishment. The criminalization of perpetrators of gender-based violence remains a shortcoming. The weak functioning of the justice system contributes to the perception of impunity for SGBV (sexual gender based violence) related crimes. There are shortcomings in the production of legal precedents from SGBV reports at police level. Additionally, there are challenges in providing evidence that is accepted in court. The overall effectiveness of the police response continues to be undermined by the lack of documented evidence gathered in the health units, the slow prosecution and investigations and the slow pace of the judicial system to prosecute and the inability to enforce judicial decisions. Despite this situation, the creation and support to GAFMVV – Gabinetes de Atendimento a Família e Menores Vitimas de Violência, as well of the Multisector Integrated Assistance Mechanism to Support Women Victims of Violence, and the Integral Assistance Centres (CAIs-one stop centers) are a good practice that should be replicated. Most vulnerable groups are still left behind across the prevention-response continuum, e.g. women and girls with intersectional vulnerabilities such as women living with HIV, women with disability and LGBT+ groups, whose challenges and needs are not properly addressed.

The situation is aggravated by the **conflict in the northern province of Cabo Delgado**. The massive pressure of internal displaced people, especially women and children who make up the majority of the displaced population, poses risks associated with sexual and reproductive health due to adaptation mechanisms that tend to include transactional sex, sexual work and early marriage; as well as sexual and physical violence perpetrated by different actors involved in the conflict. This is also directly connected to the economic dependence of women, and thus calls for specific economic empowerment and livelihoods strategies specific for women in situations of crises and emergency. Responses to the complex situation should also include institutional mechanisms and services on mental health particularly focusing on psychological rehabilitation and dealing with trauma in a gender sensitive approach.

The implementation of the National Plan of Action on Women, Peace and Security (NAP 1325) has led to the organisation of platforms for women's organizations, including community-based organizations, and promoting dialogues. The 'solidarity camps' are considered a good practice for the involvement of women. Different forms of cultural manifestations are being used to make complex messages more accessible, call for greater accountability and promote peace.

## 2. Selected thematic areas of engagement and objectives

The Multi-annual indicative programme 2021-2027 for Mozambique focus on the above mentioned three priority areas –Growing Green, Growing Youth, and Governance, Peace and Security. Progress in the objectives of these three areas are all relevant to promote gender equality and women’s empowerment. As such, at least 85% of actions supported will have gender equality as a significant or principal objective. The MIP also envisages a standalone action to fight against sexual and gender based violence. The Human Rights and Democracy Action Plan for Mozambique 2021-2024 includes ‘Gender equality and women's and children’s rights’ as one of its strategic priorities. The EU Roadmap for Engagement with Civil Society in Mozambique 2021-2027 includes ‘Promotion of gender equality and empowerment’ as one of the objectives for engagement with CSOs over this period.

In line with these strategic documents, the **overall objective** of EU action for gender equality and women’s empowerment in Mozambique will be to contribute to the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) by ensuring through gender mainstreaming, targeted actions and political dialogue that women and girls participate in and equally benefit from Mozambique’s development efforts.

The selected GAP III ‘areas of engagement’ and related objectives for EU action in Mozambique are:

### **i) Harnessing the challenges and opportunities of the green transition and digital transformation**

Objective 1: Women, men, girls and boys, in all their diversity, better adapting to climate change in their daily lives and contributing to preserve the natural environment are supported.

Objective 2: Women, men, girls and boys in all their diversity have equal access to affordable and secure broadband, technology and digital tools.

### **ii) Promoting economic and social rights and empowering girls and women**

Objective 3: Improved access to safe water and sanitation facilities.

Objective 4: Women, men, girls and boys, in all their diversity, have improved nutrition levels.

Objective 5: Reduction of gender disparities in enrolment, progression and retention in primary and secondary education.

Objective 7: Women dispose of enhanced skills offering them better opportunities to obtain decent work.

Objective 8: Greater opportunities for young women and men to secure decent employment and income against a background of increased trade and investment.

### **iii) Ensuring freedom from all forms of gender-based violence**

Objective 9: Women, men, girls and boys in all their diversity are better protected from all forms of gender-based violence in the public and private spheres.

### **iv) Integrating the women, peace and security agenda**

Objective 10: support women’s participation to action related to prevention and resolution of conflicts, thereby enhancing the implementation of the Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security – UNSCR 1325.

## v) **Advancement of participation and leadership**

Objective 11: Women's organisations, other CSOs and women human rights defenders working for gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment and rights work more freely and are better protected by law.

Since 2021, the EU approved 8 programmes labelled G1 (gender is a 'significant objective'), contributing to the above mentioned objectives (See Annex 1). Details on the programmes and how gender will be mainstreamed can be found in the [INTPA website](#)<sup>10</sup>.

The 11 Member States that are present in Mozambique are committed to the GAP III objectives. Since 2021, EU MS have approved several programmes and projects (listed in Annex II) that contribute to the GAP III thematic areas of engagement:

- Ensuring freedom from all forms of gender-based violence: Belgium, Finland, France, Ireland, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain (including the Catalan and Andalusian Agencies) and Sweden;
- Promoting sexual and reproductive health and rights: Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain (including the Catalan and Andalusian Agencies) and Sweden;
- Promoting economic and social rights and empowering girls and women: Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain (including the Catalan and Andalusian Agencies) and Sweden;
- Promoting equal participation and leadership: Finland, France, Ireland, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain (including the Catalan and Andalusian Agencies) and Sweden;
- Integrating the women, peace and security agenda: Austria, Finland, Ireland, Italy, Germany, Spain and Sweden;
- Harnessing the challenges and opportunities of the green transition and digital transformation: Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Spain (including the Andalusian Agency) and Sweden.

Synergies between EU and EU Member State actions will be ensured by continued investment in the existing joint coordination mechanisms at different levels, i.e. at Heads of Mission, at Heads of Cooperation and, finally, operationally, through the Gender and Citizenship Group as well with the Gender Focal Points. Moreover, the EU and its MS in Mozambique, have committed to implement the Team Europe Initiative (TEI) E-youth which is labelled as G1 and aims at supporting Mozambican youth to reach their full potential to lead the socio-economic transformation of the country. Unlocking this potential will require bold action across the triple-e challenge: Education, Employment and Empowerment.

It is important to note that some EU Member States (notably ES, FR, DE) have adopted a feminist foreign policy that allow for a reinforced gender perspective in development cooperation and humanitarian programming.

CSOs will be involved in the implementation and the monitoring of the CLIP. The 2021-2027 CSO Roadmap indeed identified 'Promotion of gender equality and empowerment' as one of the objectives for engagement with CSOs over this period. Tentative actions include:

- Support the research, academic knowledge, data collection on gender inclusion and policies in Mozambique.
- Boost the use and coverage of the Gender index for Municipality and its recommendations.

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<sup>10</sup> [https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/action-plans\\_en?f%5B0%5D=countries\\_countries\\_multiple%3Ahttp%3A//publications.europa.eu/resource/authority/country/MOZ](https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/action-plans_en?f%5B0%5D=countries_countries_multiple%3Ahttp%3A//publications.europa.eu/resource/authority/country/MOZ)

- Support women's activism and diversified support to women inclusion observatories.
- Support the CSOs evaluation of the National Action Plan on women, peace and security and its recommendations.
- Reinforce support to CSO fighting against all forms of violence against women and girls in armed and non-armed conflict contexts.

Besides this, the CSO Roadmap envisages that the EU and MS will step up engagement with CSOs – including women's associations- to strengthen an enabling environment for civil society, to shift towards a more structured dialogue with CSOs, to channel and promote the voice of youth and persons with disabilities, and develop capacities on digitalization and entrepreneurship, to strengthen domestic accountability and peace building, and to expand civil society engagement on environmental and climate action.

### **3. Targeted action(s) supporting gender equality and women's empowerment**

In line with the MIP 2021-2027, the EU maintained its longstanding support to 'Ensure that Women, men, girls and boys in all their diversity are better protected from all forms of gender-based violence in the public and private spheres' through two targeted G2 programmes. The programmes build on the lessons learnt from Spotlight Initiative and other programmes supported by EU Member States, such as Rapariga Biz<sup>11</sup>:

- Building Resilience for Women and Girls in the North (EUR 5 million), a component of 'Resinorte-Resilience for the North'. The programme seeks to restore a protective environment and build resilience of displaced girls, women, youth and host communities in northern Mozambique by implementing a package of measures to: i) promote timely access to life-saving and high-quality sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services and rights; ii) scale up and strengthen GBV coordination, prevention, mitigation, and response mechanisms during emergencies, post-conflict, stabilization, and recovery phases; and iii) promote of gender equality and women's participation through socio-economic empowerment and resilience. These focus areas are underpinned by the humanitarian-development-peace nexus approach by addressing underlying fragilities and chronic vulnerabilities that turn shocks and stresses into humanitarian crises, with the ultimate objective of helping people recover from crises. The programme started implementation in February 2023.
- Tolerância Zero! à Violência Baseada no Género (EUR 11.5 million- of which EUR 10 million from the EU and EUR 1.5 million from the Catalan Agency). Its overall objective is to protect women, men, girls and boys in all their diversity from all forms of gender-based violence in the public and private spheres, through 4 components: i) Prevention of Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV), to ensure that gender equitable social norms, attitudes, and behaviours are promoted and supported by domesticated/translated laws at the institutional, community and individual level; ii) Services – supporting women and girls who experience violence and harmful practices use available, accessible, and quality essential SGBV services; iii) Women's movements and civil society by ensuring that women's rights groups, social movements and relevant CSOs, including those representing youth and groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination/marginalization, more effectively influence and advance progress on ending SGBV; and iv) Institutional capacities and data, by strengthening the institutional, technical and coordination capacities of (MGCAS and other relevant stakeholders, towards a multidisciplinary

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<sup>11</sup> A joint programme on sexual and reproductive health rights for adolescent's girls and boys, funded by Sweden, UK and Canada; and implemented by UNFPA, UN Women and Unicef.

and integrated/holistic response to SGBV, relying on quality data. The programme will start its implementation in the first quarter of 2024.

With regards to targeted measures taken at institutional level, the Head of Delegation has issued an internal note establishing a ‘no woman no panel’ policy to raise awareness about the need of gender balance in panels and public events<sup>12</sup>. Staff is responsible to ensure a gender balanced representation among speakers and panellists in all the conferences and seminars organised by the Delegation. By analogy, any public communication (e.g. pictures in social media, newspaper, etc.) should follow the same principle.

#### **4. Engage in dialogue for gender equality and women empowerment**

The EU prioritises the following fora for engaging in political and policy dialogue on gender equality and women’s empowerment:

- The bi-annual Art.8 Dialogue and sector political dialogues between the EU and EU Member States and the Government of Mozambique. EU and MS will make the most of these opportunities to raise concerns related to the situation of women (e.g. as has been already the case for example on women in conflict and LGBT+ rights, in 2021 and 2022) and to encourage progressive policies.
- Continued active engagement in the framework of the Government-led Gender Coordination Group (GCG). This is a multi-actor coordination mechanism involving government entities, development partners (including EU and MS), UN agencies and civil society organisations aiming to a) strengthen coordination and ensure in-depth policy dialogue between the Government and other stakeholders on gender issues; b) support the effective implementation and monitoring of policies; c) contribute to policy related gender analysis and research; d) support coordination mechanisms addressing gender issues at provincial level, and support gender advocacy. The group is currently co-led by the Catalan Agency.
- The development partners’ Gender Working Group under the Development Cooperation Partnership (DCP), aiming at influencing strategic dialogue and advocacy on targeted issues related to gender equality and women’s empowerment. The group is currently co-led by Canada and UN Women.
- Ongoing policy dialogue with all interlocutors, from different ministries in the Government to Non State Actors and development partners: bringing gender issues and the need to enforce the existing policy framework will keep being part of the EU work in Mozambique. For instance, additional opportunities for policy dialogue will be provided by the (recently established) EU Youth Sounding Board and by the High-Level Policy Group against Child, Early and Forced Marriage comprised of the Ambassadors of a number of Member States and other development partners namely the Netherlands, Sweden, Finland, Canada and the United Kingdom.
- The Gender and Citizenship group, composed by the EU and Member States meets at least twice a year. It aims at monitoring the implement of both the CSO roadmap and GAP III.
- In the framework of the ‘structural dialogue’ between EU and EU MS and CSOs that will be set up in line with the CSO’s Roadmap.

#### **5. Outreach and other communication / public diplomacy activities**

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<sup>12</sup> ‘Internal note – No woman no panel’ - Ares(2023)8572413

The EU Delegation and Member States will continue to organise advocacy activities to pass important messages on the occasion of the celebration of key dates such as the International Women’s Day, which is normally led by the French Embassy, the Human Rights Day, the International Day of Persons with Disabilities or the Campaign on the 16 Days of Activism. The EU Week will also be used as a platform to give visibility to the gender equality agenda.

#### **6. Technical Facility and/or financial resources allocated to support GAP III implementation**

The Technical Cooperation Facility (TCF) included in the Multi-annual Indicative programme 2021-2027 includes the necessary financial allocation to support the implementation of the CLIP, among others through i) technical assistance for developing gender analyses, supporting gender mainstreaming, training courses, reporting and communication; ii) support policy dialogue: conferences, events, studies, fellowships, exchange platforms to support sector dialogues leading to policy reforms and engagement with the government and other stakeholders; iii) reasonable measures to ensure accessibility for women and men with disabilities (i.e. TA, accessible documents, sign language interpretation, captioning, etc.).

The TCF has been mobilised to finance the Gender Country Profile (2022), the assessment of the Spotlight Initiative and the formulation of the G2 programme ‘Tolerância Zero!’.

**Annex 1 – CLIP Mozambique – EU programmes approved 2021-2023**

Areas of Engagement CLIP Mozambique	EU Programmes approved 2021-2023
Objective 1: Women, men, girls and boys, in all their diversity, better adapting to climate change in their daily lives and contributing to preserve the natural environment are supported.	Melhorando a Resiliência Climática em Moçambique (MERCIM+)  National Control Centre (NCC) for Energy  Sustainable Blue Economy Initiative in Mozambique
Objective 2: Women, men, girls and boys in all their diversity have equal access to affordable and secure broadband, technology and digital tools.	Vamoz Digital!
Objective 3: Improved access to safe water and sanitation facilities.	AguaNorte-Access to Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in the Northern Mozambique
Objective 4: Women, men, girls and boys, in all their diversity, have improved nutrition levels.	NutriNorte
Objective 5: Reduction of gender disparities in enrolment, progression and retention in primary and secondary education.	SER-Support to Education Reform
Objective 7: Women dispose of enhanced skills offering them better opportunities to obtain decent work.	Vamoz Digital  Cultiv´ARTE  Skills for Employment
Objective 8: Greater opportunities for young women and men to secure decent employment and income against a background of increased trade and investment.	
Objective 9: Women, men, girls and boys in all their diversity are better protected from all forms of gender-based violence in the public and private spheres.	Building Resilience for Women and Girls in the North (under ResiNorte - Resilience for the North)  Tolerância Zero! à Violência Baseada no Género
Objective 10: support women’s participation to action related to prevention and resolution of conflicts, thereby enhancing the implementation of the Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security	ResiNorte- Resilience for the North
Objective 11: Women’s organisations, other CSOs and women human rights defenders working for gender equality and women’s and girls’ empowerment and rights work more freely and are better protected by law.	Support to Democratic Governance in Mozambique  Cidadania Activa

Details on the programmes and how gender will be mainstreamed can be found in the [INTPA website](#)<sup>13</sup>.

<sup>13</sup> [https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/action-plans\\_en?f%5B0%5D=countries\\_countries\\_multiple\\_%3Ahttp%3A//publications.europa.eu/resource/authority/country/MOZ](https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/action-plans_en?f%5B0%5D=countries_countries_multiple_%3Ahttp%3A//publications.europa.eu/resource/authority/country/MOZ)

**Annex II - CLIP Mozambique – EU MS programmes approved 2021-2023**

**Austria**

Project	GAP III Thematic areas
Measuring masculinities	Ensuring freedom from all forms of gender-based violence. Promoting sexual and reproductive health and rights. Promoting economic and social rights and empowering girls and women.
DELPAZ – Desenvolvimento Local para a Consolidação da Paz em Moçambique	Integrating the women, peace and security agenda. Promoting economic and social rights and empowering girls and women.

**Belgium/Flanders**

Project	GAP III Thematic areas
Enhancing the quality of the midwifery workforce in Maputo province.	Promoting sexual and reproductive health and rights. Promoting economic and social rights and empowering girls and women.
Healthy and resilient communities: improving access to quality patient-centred SRHRs with a focus on the most vulnerable groups in Tete Province.	
Happy women and happy Babies: Integrated and inclusive access to SRHR for women and girls, mothers and their babies in Maravia and Zumbo districts, Tete Province	
Tsogola Tsicana (Go Girl) – Tete province	
Protecting the Future: Health & Resilience Initiative – Tete province.	
Strengthening the Health System in Tete Province	

**Finland**

Project	GAP III Thematic areas
Civic Engagement and Human Rights (CEHUR)	Advancement of participation and leadership. Ensuring freedom from all forms of gender-based violence.
My decisions, My future	Ensuring freedom from all forms of gender-based violence. Promoting sexual and reproductive health and rights. Advancement of participation and leadership.

## France

Project	GAP III Thematic areas
MUVA : Promoting access to economic opportunities for young people, especially young women, in disadvantaged urban areas of Mozambique	Promoting economic and social rights and empowering girls and women.
ACAMOZ II : Cashew and macadamia sector structuring	
OLOH One Limpopo One Health : Conservation and socio-economic community development of the Limpopo National Park	Promoting economic and social rights and empowering girls and women. Harnessing the challenges and opportunities of the green transition and digital transformation.
CSO INTERAIDE : Sustainable improvement of young children's health in remote rural areas	Promoting economic and social rights and empowering girls and women. Promoting sexual and reproductive health and rights.

## Germany

Project	GAP III Thematic areas
Boa Governação Financeira	Promoting equal participation and leadership
Regional Ocean Governance Initiative West-Indian Ocean	
Pro Educação	Promoting economic and social rights and empowering girls and women
Pro MOVE	
Employment and Skills for Development in Africa (E4D)	
Green Innovation Centres in the Agriculture and Food Sector	
Labour market orientation of national professional education and employment policies	
Employment Promotion for Women for the Green Transformation in Africa	
Vamos Competir	
BackUp Health	Promoting sexual and reproductive health and right
Nexus Norte implemented	Integrating the women, peace and security agenda
Inclusive participation in peace and security in the border region of Mozambique and Tanzania	
Climate policy and energy transition	Harnessing the challenges and opportunities of the green transition and digital transformation
Facilitating climate change mitigation (NAMA Facility)	

## Italy

Project	GAP III Thematic area
Coding Girls - Reducing the Gender and Geographic Gap in the ICT sector in Mozambique	Promoting economic and social rights and empowering girls and women. Harnessing the challenges and opportunities of the green transition and digital transformation.
As Mulheres do “SUSTENTA” (the Women of the SUSTENTA Govt.-led programme)	Promoting economic and social rights and empowering girls and women. Promoting equal participation and leadership

## Ireland

Project	GAP III Thematic areas
Support to the Education Sector Pool Fund (FASE)	Promoting economic and social rights and empowering girls and women Promoting equal participation and leadership
Incentivise Education for Girls of Machulane (Community Association for the Development of Machulane, 2021)	
1000 Books for 1000 Girls, Guava School, Maputo Province	
Developing Girl’s Independence and Leadership Capacities in Supinho and Idugo Districts, Zambezia province	
Clinton Access Health Initiative	Promoting sexual and reproductive health and right
Support for the Sexual and Reproductive Rights of Young People	Integrating the women, peace and security agenda Promoting economic and social rights and empowering girls and women
Mozambique Peace Process Support	
Integrated Programme for Agriculture for Development in Niassa and Internally Displaced People (IDP) Response	
Improving livelihoods through Sweet Potato Production and Marketing in Niassa and Inhambane Provinces, Mozambique	
YAO Crochet Project	
Eco Hub Project	Harnessing the challenges and opportunities of the green transition and digital transformation.
International Women’s Day	Ensuring freedom from all forms of gender-based violence. Promoting equal participation and leadership.

## Netherlands

Project	GAP III Thematic area
Sustainable Livelihood Development Program in the Gorongosa region	Promoting economic and social rights and empowering girls and women.

Strengthening Food Systems in the Beira Corridor	
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### **Portugal**

Project	GAP III Thematic area
Mulheres Empreendedoras dos PALOP: Cultura, Inovação e Desenvolvimento (Multi country Project - Angola, Cabo Verde, Guiné-Bissau, Moçambique e SãoTomé e Príncipe)	Promoting economic and social rights and empowering girls and women. Promoting equal participation and leadership
Nova Geração de Mulheres para a Transformação	
Marias Meninas - Identificar e transpor barreiras impostas às raparigas para o cumprimento das metas dos ODS 4 e ODS 5 em Angola e Moçambique	Promoting sexual and reproductive health and right. Promoting economic and social rights and empowering girls and women. Ensuring freedom from all forms of gender-based violence.
Mulheres Saudáveis e Empoderadas: A Chave para Crianças e Gerações Saudáveis	

### **Spain**

Spanish Agency for International Cooperation and Development

Project	GAP III Thematic Area
Strengthening women's participation in decision-making spaces in political and public life in Cabo Delgado.	Advancement of participation and leadership. Integrating the women, peace and security agenda.
Habitat 5, Contributing to the right to the city. Access to tenure, services and resilient infrastructure in Cahamculo C, Maputo.	Promoting economic and social rights and empowering girls and women.
Promoting a life free of violence against women through leadership and economic empowerment in the provinces of Inhambane and Gaza (Mozambique).	Promoting economic and social rights and empowering girls and women. Ensuring freedom from all forms of gender-based violence Promoting sexual and reproductive health and rights.
Empowerment of girls and young women.	

Andalusian Agency for International Cooperation and Development

Project	GAP III Thematic Area
Support for the integration of gender policies in the instruments and mechanisms of governance in Maputo Province.	Advancement of participation and leadership. Ensuring freedom from all forms of gender-based violence Promoting sexual and reproductive health and rights.
Strengthening community networks to eradicate premature unions in the Magude district.	

Improving productive capacities based on sustainable mangrove management and empowerment of women and youth in the communities of Macaneta, Gdzene, Macavule and Muntanhana in the Marracuene district.	Promoting economic and social rights and empowering girls and women  Promoting equal participation and leadership
Empowering sustainable livelihoods, climate resilience and women's capacities in Ngalunde and Macaneta communities.	
Agro-sustainable: Promotion of environmentally sustainable integrated systems with a focus on community income generation in the Matutuine and Boane districts.	Promoting economic and social rights and empowering girls and women. Harnessing the challenges and opportunities of the green transition and digital transformation
Improving the livelihoods of the rural population of the Marrupa district, Niassa province, through the promotion of environmentally sustainable integrated systems, institutional strengthening and women's empowerment.	
Strengthening the right to diversified, sustainable and equitable livelihoods in four Chilauene communities.	

Catalan Agency for International Cooperation and Development

Project	GAP III Thematic area
Community Leaders engagement for Gender Equality and Women's Rights	Ensuring freedom from all forms of gender-based violence
Strength Inhambane Provincial Government to Eliminate Child Marriage	
Strengthen the Mechanisms to fight against GbV and to support the women and girls	
Protection and assistance for the displaced and host communities to prevent and respond to gender-based violence in the province of Cabo Delgado, Mozambique	Ensuring freedom from all forms of gender-based violence Promoting equal participation and leadership
Support to the Women's Advancement Plan and the National Plan for Prevention and Fight against GbV	
Training and support to the Proximity Community Agents Network and Civil Society and develop a Local Defenders Network in Inhambane	
Access to visual health for women and girl	Ensuring freedom from all forms of gender-based violence Promoting equal participation and leadership Promoting economic and social rights and empowering girls and women.
Women Fund	
Technical Cooperation on Sexual and Reproductive Health between Inhambane and Catalan Health Departments	Promoting sexual and reproductive health and rights.
Tolerância Zero! À violência baseada no Género	Ensuring freedom from all forms of gender-based violence Promoting equal participation and leadership Promoting sexual and reproductive health and rights Promoting economic and social rights and empowering girls and women.
Strengthening Women's Skills: An Economic Empowerment Project for Young Women and Girls	Promoting economic and social rights and empowering girls and women.

## Sweden

Project	GAP III Thematic area
Strengthening Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) and Gender Based Violence (GBV) response services in Cabo Delgado, Niassa and Nampula Provinces	Promoting sexual and reproductive health and rights Ensuring freedom from all forms of gender-based violence
Access to Safe Abortions in Mozambique Phase 2	
OHCHR- Advancing Human Rights Agenda in Mozambique	Promoting equal participation and leadership Ensuring freedom from all forms of gender-based violence
MozTrabalha2 2022-2027	Promoting economic and social rights and empowering girls and women.
Women's Economic Empowerment – WIN 2	
Energy for all	Promoting economic and social rights and empowering girls and women.
Brilho	Harnessing the challenges and opportunities of the green transition and digital transformation