

# HUMAN RIGHTS IN MOZAMBIQUE

UPR Info Pre-sessions

# Situation in Mozambique – Right to Education and Health

- **Follow-up on Previous Recommendations**
  - 64 recommendations on education accepted
  - 45 recommendations on health accepted
- **Developments Since Last Review**
  - Increased primary school enrollment
  - Reduced gender disparities
  - Public spending on education around 6% of GDP
  - Improved vaccination, maternal and child care
  - Strengthened HIV, TB, and malaria prevention
- **Persistent Challenges**
  - Around 3 million children out of school
  - Over 1,100 classrooms inoperable in Cabo Delgado
  - Limited access to health services
  - Shortage of professionals and medicines
  - Long distances to health facilities

# Recommendations – Right to Education and Health

- Rehabilitate schools and health facilities in conflict- and disaster-affected areas, with clear plans and timelines;
- Reduce school exclusion and improve health access through targeted social support and the elimination of indirect costs;
- Strengthen the training and deployment of teachers and health professionals, especially in rural areas;
- Increase sustainable financing for education and health, prioritizing underserved regions;

# Situation in Mozambique – Gender-Based Violence

- **Follow-up on Previous Recommendations**
  - 27 recommendations on gender-based violence accepted during the 3rd UPR cycle
- **Developments Since Last Review**
  - Implementation of Law No. 29/2009 (Law on Domestic Violence Against Women), Family Law, and Law on Child and Forced Marriages
  - Strengthened legal and institutional frameworks
  - GBV remains widespread despite reforms
  - Over 20,000 cases reported in 2024
  - More than 13,000 cases reported by Q3 2025
- **Key Challenges**
  - Limited access to survivor support services
  - Insufficient funding
  - Weak coordination between institutions
  - Gaps in protection and referral mechanisms

# Recommendations – Gender-Based Violence

- Ensure sustainable funding and strengthen integrated support services for survivors in all provinces;
- Improve coordination among health, justice, police, and social sectors, with effective referral and protection mechanisms.

# Situation in Mozambique – Access to Justice

- **Follow-up on Previous Recommendations**
  - 61 recommendations on access to justice accepted
- **Developments Since Last Review**
  - Monitoring by KULIMA (2023–2024) in Cabo Delgado, Zambézia, and Nampula
  - Persistent barriers to justice:
    - ❖ High indirect costs (transport, informal fees)
    - ❖ Procedural delays
    - ❖ Low public trust in justice institutions
- **Documented Impacts**
  - Widows denied inheritance rights
  - Survivors of domestic violence without judicial follow-up
  - Youth excluded from formal justice mechanisms
  - Approx. **3,000 cases** documented (2023–2024) where families could not pursue legal claims
- **Consequences**
  - Vulnerable groups abandon formal justice
  - Increased reliance on informal mechanisms
  - Reinforcement of injustice and exclusion

# Recommendations – Access to Justice

- Strengthen the presence and capacity of justice institutions at district level, particularly in rural and remote areas, through improved staffing, infrastructure, and logistics;
- Expand free legal aid and community legal education programs, in partnership with civil society, ensuring regular access for women, youth, and vulnerable groups.

# Situation in Mozambique – Civic Space

- **Follow-up on Previous Recommendations**
  - 12 recommendations on civic space accepted during the 3rd UPR cycle
- **Developments Since Last Review (2021–2025)**
  - Significant deterioration of civic space
  - Increase in political violence and administrative restrictions
  - Post-electoral protests (Oct 2024 – Mar 2025):
    - ❖ 411 deaths
    - ❖ 7,200 arrests
    - ❖ 3,700 injured (over 900 by gunfire)
    - ❖ 5 reported missing (Plataforma Decide)
- **Human Rights Concerns**
  - Intimidation of activists and journalists
  - Lack of public investigations and accountability
  - Absence of adequate reparations for victims
  - Climate of fear and declining civic participation
- **Recent Example (2026)**
  - KULIMA prevented from implementing an approved youth project in Montepuez, Cabo Delgado

# Recommendations – Civic Space

- Ensure respect for freedom of assembly and civic participation, including transparent investigations and accountability for post-electoral violence;
- Prevent arbitrary administrative restrictions on civil society activities and promote regular dialogue with civil society, particularly in northern and conflict-affected regions.

# Thank you



**KULIMA – Organismo para o Desenvolvimento  
Sócio-Económico Integrado**