MLHCP
Mozambique Local Humanitarian Coordination Platform

2026

MOZAMBIQUE LOCAL HUMANITARIAN COORDINATION PLATFORM (MLHCP)



MONTHLY MEETING REPORT

Led locally, supported globally

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Opening and objectives

The Local Platform held its monthly meeting on 24 September 2026 in a hybrid format, with participants in person in Pemba and online via Microsoft Teams, chaired by the National Convener, Nyararai Magudu. As the last monthly meeting before the II General Assembly — scheduled for the last week of November — the session combined a presentation of the Protect Aid Workers mechanism, an update on humanitarian financing and due diligence, and a set of updates and opportunities for members.



Members of the Local Platform at the September monthly meeting, Pemba.

Protection of aid workers (PAW)

The highlight of the meeting was a presentation of the Protect Aid Workers (PAW) mechanism by **David Annequin, Programme Director**, who took several questions from members. PAW is a rapid-response mechanism, launched in 2024 and funded by DG ECHO, run by a consortium of humanitarian organisations to ensure fast, predictable support for aid workers affected by serious incidents.

David opened by recalling the scale of the problem: in 2025, according to the Aid Workers Security Database, **350 aid workers were killed, 322 wounded, 235 kidnapped and 280 detained**. Against this backdrop, PAW provides protection grants of up to €10,000 per worker (with flexibility in exceptional cases and no cut-off date for the incident), covering income support, evacuation and temporary relocation, health and psychological needs, legal costs, replacement of essential items, and death benefits for families. Eligible recipients are staff and associated personnel of not-for-profit organisations — including volunteers, daily workers and subcontractors — and their immediate family members; requests are normally channelled through the NGO, with individual contact reserved for exceptional cases.

The figure that struck the room most: since 2024, PAW has supported **more than 700 people across 22 countries — yet has received not a single request from Mozambique**. The barrier, David stressed, is language and a lack of information; PAW is preparing a website, leaflet and video in Portuguese. The call to the Platform and its members is clear: carry this information from leadership to all staff and to the field, including community activists. Requests can be made through protectaidworkers.org or hotline@protectaidworkers.org.



David Annequin (PAW) presents the mechanism to members, September monthly meeting.

Humanitarian financing and due diligence

Access to funding remains the main barrier for local actors, and the data presented show real but still-slow progress. Humanitarian funding channelled to local and national actors rose from 6.32% (2022) to 7.64% (2023) and 7.93% (2024), and direct funding to national NGOs increased from **1.12% (US$2.41M) in 2025 to 3.07% (US$7.48M) in 2026**. Of the Platform's 119 members, 33 are registered with at least one of the four partners, 25 have already completed due diligence and 17 never have. More than 30 national NGOs completed pooled-fund capacity assessments in 2025, of which 15 were found eligible for direct funding.

To reduce duplication — since due diligence completed for one agency is not always recognised by another — the Platform proposed a self-registration mechanism to consolidate who has completed it and with which entity, easing members' access to new funding opportunities.

Information sharing: members' rights and obligations

The session reinforced a central message: the Platform can only represent, advocate for and facilitate access to funding on the strength of the information members share. Membership brings rights — receiving opportunities on time, capacity-building and support with due diligence, representation and a voice in advocacy, and participating and voting in the General Assembly — but also obligations: sharing presence, activities and results, reporting application outcomes and keeping contacts up to date. Sharing is not exposure: case data and sensitive information remain confidential. In this spirit of initiative and responsibility, one member, Ali, captured the mood of the room:

> *"Nothing came for free. We, the local and national NGOs, have to work hard and not wait for free things. The only free thing that comes from the sky is, perhaps, the rain."*
> — Ali, member of the Local Platform

Opportunities for members

Application results. The Platform congratulated the members that advanced to the second phase — full proposal submission — and encouraged the others to keep applying and to request feedback. Preliminary information points to more consortia among members and the expectation of more direct funding to local and national NGOs; all members are asked to inform the Secretariat of each application's outcome, positive or not.

El Niño response. The FHM expression of interest for the El Niño response is open. The Platform encourages consortia of local and national actors, combining field presence and complementary capacities, and applying only where there is genuine presence. The submission deadline is 9 October 2026. The priority districts are Mapai (Gaza), Govuro (Inhambane), Guro (Manica) and Mutarara (Tete), according to the Fund's District Selection Analysis of 12 September 2026.

Cash and vouchers. The Platform is seeking to identify members that already deliver, or have the interest and capacity to deliver, cash transfers and vouchers, and in which provinces and districts. Those interested should express interest to the Secretariat.

Start Network membership. For the first time, Start Network membership is open to Mozambican NGOs, opening access to the Start Fund and to disaster risk financing. Following a webinar on 21 September and a strategic meeting with the network's leadership on 22 September, a briefing on Start Ready and disaster risk financing and a visit to Mozambique are planned before year-end. Eligible applicants are local or national organisations legally registered — or otherwise authorised — to operate in Mozambique and to receive and manage funding; with a humanitarian mandate or experience; genuine field presence and trusted community relationships; basic financial-management and safeguarding systems; a good reputation; and no listing on sanctions lists. Established presence in high-need areas — conflict, displacement, cyclones, floods or drought — and participation in humanitarian coordination structures are especially valued. Applications should be submitted by December 2026; meeting the minimum requirements does not, in itself, guarantee selection.

NEAR network. The NEAR network is forming a Southern Africa Sub-committee to strengthen coordination and mutual support in the El Niño response and other shared regional crises, with space for cross-country learning, joint initiatives, localisation and collective advocacy. The draft Terms of Reference are open for members' comments until 30 September.

Strengthening the Platform

Two developments consolidate the Platform's operations. The first is the joint proposal with FAST-M, starting on 1 October, with complementary roles: the Platform responsible for coordination, FAST-M for anticipatory action and response funds, and both for capacity-building and advocacy; on 22 September, the Ministry of Justice approved the establishment of FAST-M. The second is the Sida-supported project — **US$408,466, from October 2026 to December 2027, in partnership with Save the Children** — whose largest component is institutional strengthening of members, including coordination meetings in the North, Centre and South, the 2026 and 2027 General Assemblies with regional representatives, and a full-time Coordinator based in Pemba, a vacancy now open for applications.

Towards the II General Assembly

As this was the last monthly meeting before the II General Assembly, scheduled for the last week of November 2026, members identified four priorities: governance (bringing district-platform coordinators into the structure), capacity-building (training in proposal design and funding), inclusion (disability and sign-language interpretation) and restructuring (strengthening the Platform's mission). There was also a strong sentiment to hold the Assembly outside Pemba, where it took place in 2025, with interest in rotating regions for future assemblies; the decision will weigh the concentration of most members in Pemba against cost-effectiveness.

Ahead of the Assembly, the Platform makes three concrete requests of every organisation: to nominate an information focal point; to update the organisation's details (presence, contacts and areas of work); and to send its priorities for 2027, including capacity-building needs.

Follow-up actions

1. Establish committees/working groups to support preparation of the II General Assembly.
2. Systematise the Assembly's priorities and expected outcomes.
3. Explore a mechanism for participation of district-platform coordinators and for exchange of experience with other organisations.
4. Prepare capacity-building proposals on proposal design and funding.
5. Integrate accessibility and inclusion of persons with disabilities, including sign-language interpretation.
6. Advance the discussion on restructuring and strengthening the Platform's mission.

Local Platform — Locally Led Humanitarian Coordination in Mozambique
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