

SHE BELONGS IN SCHOOL



Save the Children

Supporting girls' education and fostering girls' empowerment in northern Mozambique



Adolescent girls in Mozambique face many challenges to accessing a full course of primary and secondary education, including inability to pay for costs related to education, long distances to school, and socio-cultural pressure to marry early. Culturally, there is a perception that there is limited value in educating girls and young women, who are expected to focus on marriage and having children. During the period of adolescence (10-19), girls are particularly vulnerable to dropping out of school. In the provinces of Niassa and Nampula in northern Mozambique.

To address these challenges Save the Children is introducing “*She Belongs in School*” – a 5-year project (April 2022 to August 2026) that will be implemented across 7 districts in Nampula and Niassa provinces: Nacaroa, Memba, Erati, Muecate, Mandimba, Cuamba, and Macanhelas.

IN NORTHERN
MOZAMBIQUE,
APPROXIMATELY

62%

OF GIRLS ARE
MARRIED BEFORE
THE AGE OF 18

THE OBJECTIVES OF *SHE BELONGS IN SCHOOL* INCLUDE:

- Improving the **literacy and numeracy skills** and sense of **empowerment** of adolescent girls
- **Adolescent girls feel an increased sense of self-belief and leadership**, support from their families and communities, and have more decision-making power
- **Family members and communities are supportive of girls' rights**, particularly the right to education
- **Schools and non-formal learning spaces** in their communities are safe, supportive, and offer high-quality education



She Belongs in School will involve a variety of interventions at the level of the girl herself, her family, her community, her school, and her local government. These interventions include:

- **Communication campaigns to change attitudes and mindsets of students**, their families and wider communities;
- **Supporting community-led groups** to advocate for education;
- **Mentorship groups for adolescent girls and boys** to impart practical life skills;
- **Collaboration with teachers, school administrators, and local government** to improve the operation of School Councils,
- **Provide continuous teacher professional development**, and
- **Deliver extra-curricular programs.**

Overall, the project will support:

32,506

girls who will be provided with training, financial assistance, and other project activities



20,116

boys in SBIS targeted schools



154,975

community members whose lives will be touched indirectly



11,380 women
and **8,438** men

who will be trained and supported in positive parenting and more



The total value of the project is **\$30,990,977** with **\$29,600,000** provided by Global Affairs Canada.

The project will be implemented in partnership with **five local organizations** from Mozambique:

- **Associação para Fortalecimento Comunitario (UATAF)**
- **Associação Moçambicana dos Jovens com deficiência de Moçambique (AJODEMO)**
- **Associação Progresso**
- **Girl Move Academy**
- **United Purpose**



SBIS Project Director: harrison.ruben@savethechildren.org