

# Makhuwa Nahara

**LOCATION:** Mozambique

**POPULATION:** 323,000

**PROGRESS:** 0.02% (Frontier Group)

**BIBLE TRANSLATIONS:** Complete Bible

**PEOPLE GROUP:** The Nahara are a subgroup of the Makhuwa, which is the largest ethnic group in Mozambique comprising 40% of the population. Nahara means “fisher” in Makhuwa-Nahara (their dialect). They are a rural-coastal people whose main occupation is fishing. Even those who do not fish identify themselves as Nahara so as to distinguish themselves from their other Makhuwa kin living further inland.



## WHAT ARE THEIR BELIEFS?

Although most Nahara identify as Muslim, traditional African beliefs have melded with Islamic beliefs. Even though spiritism is renounced publicly, its practices still play a part in the lives of the Nahara. Makhuwa churches do exist in the immediate vicinity of Nahara settlements, but most of these churches have not yet found a way to reach the hearts of the Nahara.

## WHAT ARE THEIR LIVES LIKE?

Traditionally, people work as fishermen or till their own fields, raising manioc - yuca. Today some work in trade, and a few are self-taught craftsmen.

## WHAT ARE THEIR NEEDS?

Parents need to see the importance of a good education for their children. Very low literacy levels inhibit progress on several fronts. Literacy rates for men are given as about 20%, and for women as about 5%.

## MINISTRY DESCRIPTION & PLATFORM

Education has been recommended as a platform for reaching the Nahara by our Malawi team. A major portion of your ministry as you begin life among the Nahara will be prayer walking and learning language and culture while looking for open doors and bridges for the Gospel in this people group. You will be following the lead of the field partners from Malawi who have done two exploratory trips there and have begun to build relationships. As relationships are established, discipleship can begin even before they have come to follow Christ. Since this is a very communal society, as they learn about Jesus you can encourage them to share their questions and what they are learning with family and close friends. You will look for resources, networks and opportunities for partnerships with other organizations and individuals as you develop strategies for multiplying movements among the Nahara.

*If you are a follower of Christ, have a heart for those who have not yet been reached, are ready and willing to relocate and learn a second language, are excited to build a team in the field with people from other cultures and if you are ready to respond to God's call to go, we are ready to send you.*

Email Jenny at [mobilization@global-teams.org](mailto:mobilization@global-teams.org) or visit <https://www.global-teams.org/letsgo>