MOZAMBIQUE

Displacement associated with Conflict and Violence

Figure Analysis – GRID 2020

CONTEXT

New displacement in Mozambique in 2019 was associated with violence in Cabo Delgado province. This area, located in the far north of the country, has experienced a surge in violence since October 2017, largely perpetuated by a group commonly called al Sunna wa Jummah. Different motives have been posited as a cause for the recent violence. The conflict is sometimes referred to as an Islamic insurgency, but it also involves elements of a criminal nature and conflict over land and other resources. These build on long running socio-economic discontent in Cabo Delgado. Some sources estimate that 200 people have died since the start of the violence in late 2017.

Civilians are displaced as armed groups raid villages, killing individuals and burning houses. Many people have fled across the border to Tanzania, gone to neighbouring provinces, or sought shelter on islands off the coast of Cabo Delgado. Increased military activity in the region, including the arrival of mercenaries from abroad, have also served to destabilize the province. Violence and related displacement increased around the election period in October in Cabo Delgado, Sofala, Manica and Nampula provinces. People reported being unable to vote in their registered polling stations because of their displacement.

There were an estimated 5,288 new displacements in 2019. These occurred primarily in Palma, Mocimboa da Praia and Macomia districts in Cabo Delgado. The estimate is based on media reports of housing destruction and is a conservative one. Humanitarian organizations are assisting internally displaced people (IDPs) in Cabo Delgado, but no official figures on the number of people displaced in 2019 have yet been released.

New displacements that occurred in 2019	Total number of IDPs as of 31 December 2019 *(Year figure was last updated: 2019)*	Partial Solutions and Unverified Conditions		
		Number of IDPs who have made partial progress towards a durable solution*		Number of IDPs whose progress towards durable solutions cannot be verified**
		Flows *(1 January – 31 December 2019)*	Stocks	Flows *(1 January – 31 December 2019)*
5,288	110,005	-	-	-

*This corresponds to the number of IDPs whom our data providers have identified as having returned, resettled or locally integrated in 2019 and for whom the evidence obtained by IDMC suggests that progress toward durable solutions is only partial given their living conditions. In a few instances, this number may refer to movements having taken place in 2019 (flows) rather than a total number of people (stock).

**This corresponds to the number of IDPs whom our data providers have identified as having returned, resettled or locally integrated in 2019 but for whom there is no available evidence to corroborate progress toward durable solutions. In a few instances, this number may refer to movements having taken place in 2019 (flows) rather than a total number of people (stock).

NEW DISPLACEMENTS THAT OCCURRED IN 2019

This corresponds to new instances of internal displacement that occurred in 2019.

IDMC figure and rationale

IDMC estimates 5,288 new displacements in 2019. This estimate, derived from media reports, refers to new displacements observed principally in Cabo Delgado, and to a lesser extent in Sofala, Nampula and Manica.

Sources and methodologies

IDMC arrived at its estimate on new displacement by performing an analysis of media reports, which was corroborated using the Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED) dataset.

This is based on housing destruction reported in the media. A calculation was done, based on average house size, discounting possible cross-border movements from the final figure. Destroying houses is a common strategy used by local militia groups to spread terror in villages.

Main caveats and monitoring challenges

Some displacement events are not reported by the media, and most media articles do not discuss displacement directly. For this reason, IDMC has based its estimate on reported housing destruction. Using housing destruction as a proxy for displacement, however, is likely to lead to underestimates for various reasons. First, the exact number of homes destroyed is usually not specified. IDMC uses a conservative figure for this phenomenon. The figure may also be an underestimate because people might flee if neighbouring homes are destroyed, even if their own is not.

Significant changes from last year

The number of new displacements recorded in 2019 is higher than the figure recorded in 2018. This is because the number of attacks increased in the region. There was low confidence in the estimate in 2018 as well, however, as it was also based on housing destruction information obtained from the media.

TOTAL NUMBER OF IDPS

This corresponds to the total number of individuals living in internal displacement as of 31 December 2019.

IDMC figure and rationale

IDMC's estimate of 110,005 people living in internal displacement is based on the number of people displaced from two crises. The main case is linked to conflict and violence in Cabo Delgado province, which has been occurring since late 2017. As of January 2020, there were an estimated 100,000 people displaced as a result of this crisis in Cabo Delgado.

The other case relates to IDPs in Sofala and Manica provinces who are still living in displacement after being displaced as a result of violence between the Frelimo and Renamo political parties in 2016. An estimated 9,966 people are still considered to be living in displacement as a result of this crisis.

To those two main caseloads has been added a conservative estimate based on housing destruction in Nampula, Sofala and Manica in 2019 during the electoral process.

Sources and methodologies

The sources for the estimates vary with the caseload. IDMC's estimate for IDPs who remain displaced in Cabo Delgado as of the beginning of 2020 comes from the Humanitarian Crisis Response Platform of the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The methodology is based on a baseline assessment performed with input from key informants at the local level, coupled with a household survey, conducted by IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix team in nine districts. Assessments are still ongoing in the southern districts of Cabo Delgado.

The data for the people displaced in Sofala, Manica and Tete as a result of the 2016 political crisis is based on an estimate produced in 2016 by the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) on people living in situations of displacement in resettlement sites. Some returns reported in 2017 have been withdrawn from that figure.

The third caseload is linked to electoral violence that occurred in Manica, Sofala and Nampula in 2019, reported by various media outlets and triangulated by ACLED. This conservative figure is based on housing destruction, and we assume those homeless people are still in a situation of displacement as of the end of 2019.

Main caveats and monitoring challenges
Because of the complex nature of the conflict, little information is publicly available on the numbers of displaced people in Cabo Delgado. More humanitarian organizations moved into the area over the course of 2019, in large part to attend to the large-scale displacement and humanitarian needs following Cyclone Kenneth. As a result, more information is now available on conflict displacement as well.

Significant changes from last year
The large increase in the total number of IDPs - from 13,876 at the end of 2018 to 110,005 at the end of 2019 - has two principle reasons. Primarily, new information has been collected by humanitarian organisations on the numbers of people displaced. Secondly, there was a deterioration in the situation in Cabo Delgado in 2019.

CONFIDENCE ASSESSMENT

The Confidence Assessment provides an at-a-glance overview of the comprehensiveness of the data available regarding displacement associated with conflict for each country. It describes the methodologies used, frequency of reporting, data disaggregation and geographical coverage. Here two key metrics are analysed: the new displacements and the total number of IDPs.

Displacement metric	New displacements	Total number of IDPs
Reporting units	Households	Households, People
Methodology	Media monitoring	Media monitoring, Key informants
Geographical disaggregation	Admin 2 or more	Admin 2 or more
Frequency of reporting	Other	Other
Disaggregation by sex	No	No
Disaggregation by age	No	No
Data triangulation	Some local triangulation	Some local triangulation
Data on settlement elsewhere	No	No
Data on returns	No	No
Data on local integration	No	No
Data on cross border movements	No	No
Data on deaths	No	No
Data on births	No	No

For any additional questions please email: data@idmc.ch

For the full country profile on Mozambique, please visit:
http://www.internal-displacement.org/countries/mozambique