

Cabo Delgado Situation

29 May – 11 June 2021

As of April, 732,000 persons were displaced in the provinces of Cabo Delgado, Nampula, Niassa, Sofala and Zambezia as a result of violence and insecurity in Cabo Delgado. As of June, some **70,000 people from Palma were forcibly displaced** in the aftermath of Non-State Armed Groups (NSAGs) attacks in March.

The humanitarian situation continues deteriorating and urgent assistance is needed to address the needs of families fleeing violence, particularly in hard to reach areas, due to insecurity, which have been the most affected.

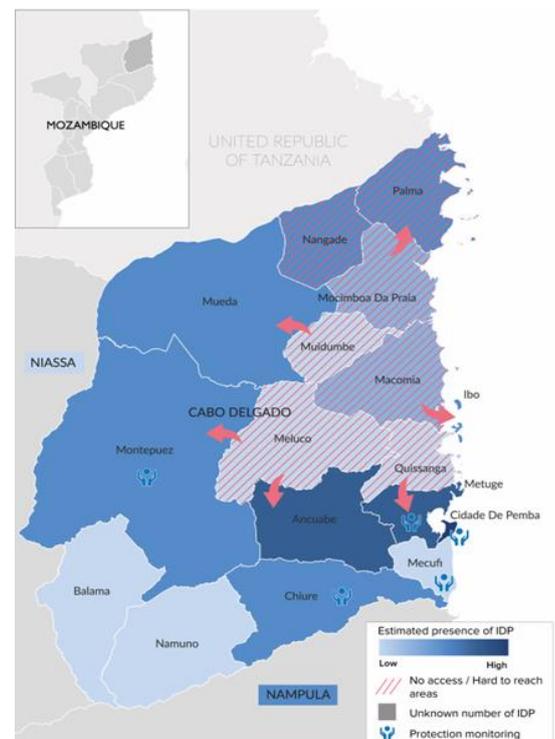
9,600 Mozambican asylum seekers have been forcibly returned from Tanzania since January 2021. UNHCR urges neighboring countries to respect access to asylum for those fleeing widespread violence and armed conflict in northern Mozambique.

Situation update

■ Continuous forced return of Mozambican asylum seekers from Tanzania after fleeing violence in Cabo Delgado:

Between January and June 2021, over 9,600 Mozambican asylum seekers from Cabo Delgado were forcibly returned from Tanzania through the Negomano border point, in Mueda District, Northern Mozambique. Out of this figure, 900 people were forcibly returned between 7 and 9 June only. Families pushed back from Tanzania end up in a dire situation at the border and are exposed to gender-based violence (GBV) and health risks as many are sleeping in the open at night in extreme cold without blankets or a roof over their heads. There is an urgent need for emergency core relief items (CRIs) and food. In June, UNHCR provided kitchen sets, sleeping mats, blankets, mosquito nets, jerry cans, solar lamps and tarpaulins, to approximately 1,500 people recently returned from Tanzania in Negomano, as part of a distribution targeting 10,000 people in Mueda District. UNHCR continues to advocate for the internally displaced to receive protection and assistance in Mozambique and for vulnerable people seeking safety in neighbouring Tanzania to access asylum. UNHCR reiterates its call for those fleeing the conflict to have access to the territory and to asylum, and, in particular, for the principle of non-refoulement (no forced return) to be respected. (Additional information available [here](#))

■ **Urgent assistance needs in hard to reach and partially reachable areas in Cabo Delgado:** The coastal districts Mocimboa da Praia, Quissanga and Palma, as well as the non-coastal districts of Meluco and Muidumbe are considered as hard to reach due to the presence of Non-State Armed Groups (NSAGs), insecurity, and logistical/transportation challenges, while the districts of Ibo, Macomia, Mueda and Nangade are considered partially accessible. Although there are currently no up-to-date displacement figures available on hard to reach areas, the districts considered partially accessible were hosting over 178,000 IDPs as of April 2021. In both hard to reach and partially accessible areas, displaced and host communities are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance as a result of the ongoing situation of violence, displacement, lack of access to food and non-food



Map: Estimated IDP presence and movement
 Data source: IOM/DTM

items, health services and shelter. It is critical to reach populations in these areas to provide protection assistance to vulnerable groups in particular survivors of gender-based violence; separated and unaccompanied minors; people with disabilities; elderly persons; and separated families. In addition to protection assistance, displaced families are in urgent need of CRIs and shelter materials. Moreover, the assistance provided should be accompanied by a comprehensive strategy to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA).

Response update



Distribution of Core Relief Items to displaced populations in Mueda District ©UNHCR/ Deiliany de Souza

■ **Distribution of Core Relief Items (CRIs) and PSEA in Mueda District, Cabo Delgado:** From 3 to 10 June, UNHCR distributed Core Relief Items in different neighbourhoods of Mueda District to over 2,000 displaced families/10,000 individuals, mainly from Palma, who are continuously fleeing the attacks of NSAGs in the District since March 2021. The distribution also took place in Negomano, where Mozambican asylum seekers continue being systematically refouled from Tanzania. In Negomano, around 300 families/1500 people received CRIs (included in the 2,000 families reached). UNHCR CRIs family kits include one kitchen set, two sleeping mats, two blankets, two mosquito nets, one jerry can, one solar lamp and one tarpaulin. Within the same period, UNHCR, with the support of community volunteers from the government social services (Acção Social) conducted Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) awareness raising sessions in areas targeted for the distribution of CRIs, which reached more than 2,000 people. In line with community-led and sustainable approach, UNHCR conducted awareness sessions on PSEA principles and community complaints mechanisms through community volunteers and provided PSEA training to 16 community volunteers from Acção Social and displaced communities to enable them to conduct PSEA awareness sessions in Mueda district. UNHCR is developing a strategy for essential GBV and PSEA activities in hard-to-reach/partially accessible areas without

the presence of NGO Protection partners and limited government services, while simultaneously investing in strengthening the community and government capacity to prevent and respond to GBV and PSEA.

- **Distribution of CRIs in Corrane, Nampula:** From 1 to 3 June, UNHCR conducted the first distribution of CRIs in Corrane IDP site in Nampula, reaching all 760 families currently living in this site, including eight families that had recently arrived from Palma. The items distributed included jerrycans, buckets, mosquito nets, tarpaulins, kitchen sets, solar lamps, sleeping mats and blankets. The distribution followed the results of Focus Groups Discussions (FGDs) with the IDPs that raised their needs in the site, including for mosquito nets due to the high rates of malaria in Corrane.
- **Distribution of assistance devices in Metuge district, Cabo Delgado:** On 4 and 7 June, UNHCR, in coordination with Forum of Mozambican Associations for People with Disability (FAMOD) and Social Assistance authorities, with support of Protection Focal Points (PFPs), provided assistance devices such as wheelchairs and crutches to 20 displaced people with disabilities in Metuge district.
- **Distribution of telephones and solar lamps in Metuge district, Cabo Delgado:** On 11 and 14 June, UNHCR initiated the distribution of telephones and solar lamps/chargers to Protection Focal Points (PFPs) in Ngalane, 25 de Junho and Centro Agrario IDP sites in Metuge district, with support of local leaders. This allows adequate coordination with UNHCR in effectively delivering protection services to displaced families and reporting protecting cases in remote areas. The distribution was also accompanied by an explanation on the adequate use of the phones, as well as ethical guidelines.
- **Visit of European Union Member of Parliament (EU MoP) to Pemba, Cabo Delgado:** On 14 June, the EU MoP, Ms. Isabel Santos, met with UNHCR Head of Office (HoO) in Pemba, Margarida Loureiro, to discuss the ongoing situation of violence in Cabo Delgado, as well as the main protection needs and potential areas of collaboration. Following the meeting, both the EU MoP and UNHCR HoO visited the transit center in Pemba where displaced families arriving from Palma are being hosted.
- **PSEA Network, Pemba:** on 9 June, UNHCR led the PSEA Network Cabo Delgado meeting which focused on improving coordination mechanisms in reporting SEA cases through community complaints and feedback mechanisms (CFM), particularly on channelling SEA complains received through CFM. During the meeting, the Camp Management and Camp Coordination (CCCM) Cluster presented a new inter-agency CFM tool for IDP sites in Northern Mozambique, for which UNHCR is contributing with PSEA technical support and training. The meeting was attended by three Cluster leads and six Network members.
- **Discussion of UNHCR's plan targeting displaced communities in Nampula with the local authorities:** On 9 June, UNHCR met with the Secretary of State (SoS) for Nampula and the provincial delegate of the National Institute for Disaster Management (INGD) to present the response plan to assist displaced families in the areas of protection, CCCM, shelter, livelihoods, and capacity building initiatives targeting the National Institute for Disaster Management (INDG) in the province. During the meeting, the SOS welcomed UNHCR scale-up plan; praised UNHCR's coordination with the local authorities in Nampula; and stressed the need to strengthen coordination mechanisms in the areas of community participation, GBV response and prevention, peaceful coexistence, and livelihoods to stimulate self-reliance.
- **GBV Safety Audits, Metuge district, Cabo Delgado:** On 3 June, UNHCR and GBV-Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) partner Doctors with Africa CUAMM, conducted two GBV Safety Audits in Metuge District in Ntocola and Ngalane IDP sites to identify GBV risks and gaps; propose community based approaches;

and propose GBV mitigation measures to humanitarian organizations. The safety audits involved 83 displaced people (23 women, 21 men, 20 boys and 19 girls) in focus group discussions, as well as in community mapping exercises and safety walks to identify GBV risks. The main GBV risks identified were survival sex due to lack of food assistance; long distance to reach health services; lack of emergency services; and fear of reporting GBV incidents due to stigmatization and further harm. UNHCR is working with the relevant services and the community to develop a risk mitigation plan to respond to these concerns.

■ **Protection Monitoring Exercise and GBV/PSEA activities in Ibo District, Cabo Delgado:** From 2 to 4 June, the Protection Cluster Coordinator and UNHCR GBV Officer, in the capacity of PSEA Network Co-chair for Cabo Delgado and member of the GBV area of responsibility (AoR), joined an Inter-Agency mission to Ibo District. This mission aimed at conducting a protection monitoring exercise and GBV / PSEA activities:

A) Protection Monitoring Exercise: According to IOM/DTM Round 12, as of April 2021, Ibo district hosts close to 33,000 displaced people who have received limited humanitarian support to the area due to the volatile security situation. During the protection monitoring exercise, the Protection Cluster Coordinator met with Social Assistance, the District Administrator, the police, Association of Volunteers in International Service (AVSI), and held FGDs with displaced communities as well as individual interviews. The main protection needs reported by local authorities, NGOs, and displaced families were: (i) the absence of support to continuous new arrivals from Palma, especially in Matemo island, where arrivals are taking place on a daily basis; (ii) serious GBV concerns reported by displaced women; (iii) restrictions of movement due to lack of documentation and consequent limited access to livelihoods activities; (iv) urgent need of assistance to unaccompanied and separated children – so far 36 unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) have been identified; (v) cases of child marriage, especially in Quirambo island; (vi) and urgent need of MHPSS to men, women and children as a result of traumatic experiences during attacks and while fleeing violence.

B) GBV and PSEA activities: UNHCR conducted PSEA awareness raising sessions during the verification of distribution lists reaching 200 displaced people (150 women and 50 men). PSEA information and materials on reporting mechanisms was provided to community leaders, Acção Social and to the police to enable them to conduct PSEA awareness raising sessions within displaced and host communities. During FGDs, displaced women highlighted GBV risks including sexual violence and femicide when collecting firewood; early marriage; and lack of case management services and support for GBV survivors. UNHCR is coordinating with the Protection Cluster ways of stimulating and enabling the presence of GBV actors in the district to work with local authorities, and displaced and host communities in implementing a GBV risk reduction and response plan.

■ **Service Mapping/Referral Pathway Workshop in Pemba, Cabo Delgado:** On 4 June, the Protection Cluster held a workshop in Pemba to map protection service providers in the district of Metuge, gathering 20 participants from the UN, national NGOs and international NGOs. The workshop aimed at identifying protection service providers for displaced and host communities in Metuge district; providing a refresher training on case management and referral pathways for vulnerable displaced individuals; and delivering a refresher training on general protection and protection coordination. This training also intended to ensure the mapping of protection services while simultaneously enhancing protection coordination among service providers.

■ **Protection monitoring exercise at Paquitequete beach, Pemba, Cabo Delgado:** On 8 June, the Protection Cluster and UNHCR conducted a protection monitoring exercise at Paquitequete beach in Pemba following the arrival of two boats carrying over 100 people from Palma and other areas. In addition to this group, one of the boats was transporting 20 people who disembarked in Matemo Island, in Ibo District, on the way to

Pemba. During the exercise, both the Protection Cluster and UNHCR met with local community leaders and spoke to new arrivals from previous weeks. According to the information received, within the new arrivals, some are staying in Pemba and others travelled to different districts of Cabo Delgado and Nampula with the support of the local authorities in line with their preference, including Metuge, Ancuabe and Nacala. The team was also informed that in Palma, families are gathering in a southern area of Quitunda to wait for boats to transport them to southern and safer areas in Cabo Delgado.

Working in partnership

As Protection Cluster lead in Mozambique, UNHCR has built up its presence in both Cabo Delgado and Nampula Provinces to strengthen coordination of Protection interventions, as well as participating in inter-agency efforts with UN partners, international and local organizations in support of the government's response to the IDP situation. **UNHCR co-leads the Community Engagement/Accountability to Affected Populations (CE/AAP)** as well as the Disability Inclusion Working Groups, and has been collaborating with other humanitarian actors to improve effective case referrals via the interagency helpline *Linha Verde*; and to ensure compliance with the principles of data protection and confidentiality when handling complaints and feedback.

As main lead of Cabo Delgado's Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) Network, UNHCR has been strengthening SEA complaints mechanisms and reporting across organizations, as well as ensuring common messaging and capacity building for prevention purposes.

Financial information

UNHCR's financial requirements for the Emergency Response to the Cabo Delgado Situation in 2021 total **US\$ 13.5 million**. As of May 2021, **only 9 per cent** of these needs have been funded. UNHCR is grateful to donors who have supported UNHCR's response, including the United States of America (US\$ 4.5 million), Japan (US\$ 900,000), ECHO (US\$ 1.4 million) and Central Emergency Response Fund (US\$ 1.1 million). UNHCR is urgently appealing for additional funds to implement key priorities for its emergency operation in northern Mozambique in 2021. **In addition to that, the Mozambique operation's 2021 overall funding requirements remain underfunded, with %41 funded as of 16 June.**

Flexible financial support greatly facilitates UNHCR being able to kick-start an emergency response, bolster forgotten or under-resourced crises, and enable the fullest possible implementation of programmes. It enables UNHCR to plan and manage its resources efficiently and effectively, contributing to the collective success in every life that is transformed and saved. UNHCR is grateful to the donors who have provided unearmarked and softly earmarked contributions. Additional financial and operational information is available on the Global Focus website (reporting.unhcr.org).

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