

Cabo Delgado March 2020

156,000 affected people including internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Cabo Delgado Province since October 2017.

(Government of Mozambique, February 2020)

12,000 children facing issues in accessing school, according to the provincial authorities.

437 cholera cases identified as of 4 March in Ibo, Mocimboa da Praia and Macomia districts, who are currently receiving treatment.

Situation update

- Natural disasters, such as Cyclone Kenneth in April 2019, and attacks by armed groups in north-eastern Mozambique that began in October 2017 have resulted in the destruction of villages, businesses, homes and other social infrastructure and a trend of ongoing displacement in Cabo Delgado Province. An estimated 156,000 villagers from nine of the Province's 16 districts have been affected. With many IDPs staying with relatives, friends and neighbours, additional pressure is placed on meagre resources. Many IDPs are vulnerable and face critical protection issues including exposure to sexual exploitation and abuse.
- Due to growing insecurity as well as seasonal rains and flooding that have washed away roads and bridges, IDPs are struggling to access food, potable water, health care and other critical resources in areas of displacement. Humanitarian actors are trying to access these areas in order to identify and assist vulnerable populations. Also, in response to the global COVID-19 pandemic, UN staff are temporarily withdrawing from the rural areas of Cabo Delgado except for a presence in Pemba, the provincial capital.
- Currently, some of the districts with significant numbers of IDPs can only be accessed by air or water. Logistical issues are exacerbated by severe budgetary constraints, meaning UN agencies and humanitarian organizations have limited access to the most vulnerable.

Immediate needs

- **Protection:** Ongoing attacks and increasing levels of displacement have resulted in protection needs identified in areas where IDPs have sought shelter. The lack of livelihood opportunities and overcrowding in homes increase the vulnerability of IDPs and the risk of abuse, particularly for women and children, resulting in issues such as survival sex and early marriages.
- **Shelter and Core Relief Items (CRIs):** Although most IDPs are sheltered by family and friends in safe areas, there is an urgent need for improved housing conditions and basic shelter materials. Several families often share one house. Many have been sharing homes for months under very difficult conditions.
- **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH):** WASH is an urgent priority especially in Macimboa da Praia, Macomia and Ibo



where a recent outbreak of cholera was identified, possibly as a result of the crowded and under-resourced conditions. Many IDPs are living without sufficient access to potable water and latrines.

- **Education:** According to the authorities, 15 schools have been destroyed and a further 39 have been damaged. In areas of displacement, many children have difficulty accessing schools due to overcrowding and the lack of documentation necessary to enrol, like birth certificates and other personal identification documents. Further obstacles include a lack of books, stationery and clothing.

Response update

- UNHCR co-leads the provincial Protection Cluster with the Department of Gender, Children and Social Action (DPGCAS), the government agency responsible for protection matters.
- UNHCR is working to identify and map the main protection issues and implement specific projects to address them.
- UNHCR is procuring CRIs to assist up to 15,000 of the more vulnerable individuals, including IDPs and members of host communities, with family tents, mosquito nets, kitchen sets, buckets, jerry cans and tarpaulins.
- The local authorities have identified land in Macomia District, 200kms north of Pemba, to set up shelters for an initial 1,500 – 2,500 people (300 – 500 families). Potable water is available from a natural spring situated some 600 metres from the site, which is also used by the host community. A primary school is located approximately one kilometre away. UNHCR is working with humanitarian partners to identify the most effective interventions and develop partnerships to implement protection-related projects.
- UNHCR works closely with the sub-clusters on sexual and gender-based violence led by UNFPA and child protection led by UNICEF to identify and address protection issues and coordinate actions to be addressed with the government.

Partnership

- Many UN agencies and NGOs began operating or increased their activities in Cabo Delgado in the aftermath of Cyclone Kenneth. In its role as Protection Cluster lead in Mozambique, UNHCR has been building up its presence in the north-east of the country to better lead in areas of its responsibility and participate in inter-agency efforts with UN agencies and international and local partners in support of the government's response for IDPs as a result of natural disasters and conflict.

Financial Information

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EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

World Food Programme 197,500

SOFTLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

United States of America 13.9m | Canada 2.3m

UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Sweden 76.4m | Norway 41.4m | Netherlands 36.1m | Denmark 34.6m | United Kingdom 31.7m | Germany 25.9m | Switzerland 16.4m | Private donors Spain 13.2m

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