

Cabo Delgado Situation

12 – 25 June 2021

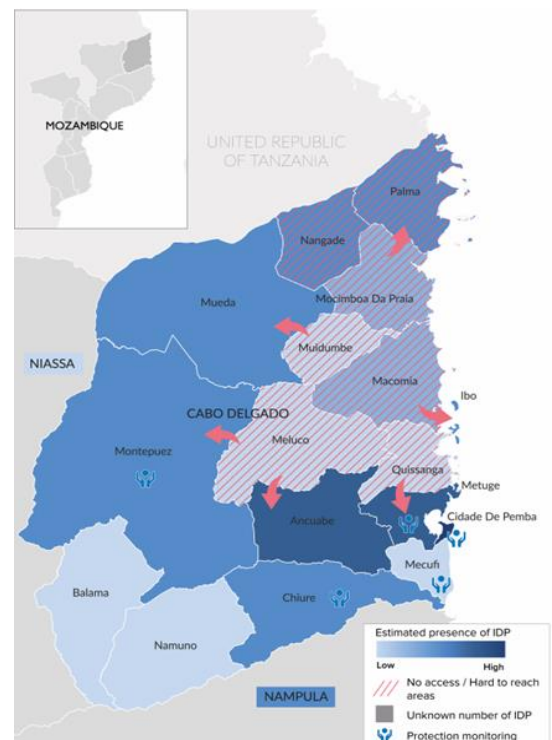
UNHCR reiterates concern over the forced return of Mozambican asylum seekers from Tanzania fleeing from violence in Cabo Delgado. UNHCR urges neighboring countries to respect access to asylum for those fleeing widespread violence and armed conflict in northern Mozambique.

In June 2021, 1,270 Mozambican asylum seekers were forcibly returned from Tanzania, raising the total number of people forcibly returned to Cabo Delgado in 2021 to 9,753 individuals. The forced return of asylum seekers to an area where their life may be at risk is a serious violation of international law and the principle of *Non-Refoulement*.

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, 84,000 people from Palma were forcibly displaced in the aftermath of Non-State Armed Groups (NSAGs) attacks in March.

Situation update

■ **Systematic and organized refoulement of Mozambican asylum seekers from Tanzania:** from 23 to 26 June, UNHCR conducted another border monitoring mission to Negomano, Mueda district, to assess the ongoing refoulement of Mozambican asylum seekers from Tanzania. UNHCR witnessed the refoulement of 13 individuals, raising the number of refouled Mozambicans to 1,270 in June 2021, and to 9,753 in 2021. During the mission, 12 refouled individuals shared that upon arrival in Tanzania, access is denied to most asylum seekers, except for a few who arrive on small boats/canoes. Due to the dangers and risks of such trips, the price per person has raised from 1,500 to 2,500 MZN (between 25 and 40 USD), which is unaffordable for most families fleeing violence in Cabo Delgado. Additionally, there are concerning reports of asylum seekers stranded in bordering areas, unable to enter in Tanzania. Those able to cross are not receiving food, medical or shelter assistance. This situation is aggravated by the high inflation in bordering areas, which has tripled the cost of living. Moreover, 50 individuals recently refouled and interviewed by UNHCR confirmed the separation of families at the border, especially binational families, which persists as one of the main protection concerns. Out of all interviewed, 87 per cent prefer to relocate to safer areas in the country such as Montepuez in Cabo Delgado, or in the neighbouring provinces of Niassa and Nampula, where they could potentially access farming land and engage in livelihoods activities to become self-reliant. In Negomano, women reiterate the lack of medical support to pregnant and breastfeeding mothers, and the absence of a maternity ward with antenatal care.



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

Response update



Internally displaced child from Cabo Delgado hosted at the Transit Center in Pemba in June 2021, Cabo Delgado ©UNHCR/ Martim Gray Pereira

- **World Refugee Day (WRD) Celebrations in Cabo Delgado and Nampula:** Every year, UNHCR marks the WRD on 20 June to raise awareness about families forced to flee their homes. In Cabo Delgado, the WRD celebrations included a joint conference in Pemba organized by UNHCR and the Catholic University of Mozambique gathering 70 members of academia, local authorities, civil society, and the UN to discuss the rights of refugees, UNHCR mandate, global displacement trends, and the different legal frameworks protecting refugees and internally displaced persons. Additionally, an art session for people with disabilities took place to allow them to express their emotions through drawing, as well as a football match for displaced and host community boys and girls in Metuge District. In Nampula, the WRD activities included a photo exhibition at UNHCR's Office in Maratane refugee camp and a fashion show at the training centre, showcasing the fashion creations of talented refugee dressmakers. At the opening ceremony of the WRD celebrations in Maratane, UNHCR stressed that despite the challenges throughout 2020 and 2021, the COVID-19 pandemic has also been a learning period that reminds us that we are stronger when we stand together, in line with the WRD messages for 2021.
- **New arrivals in Pemba, Cabo Delgado:** On 28 June, three boats carrying 260 internally displaced people arrived in Pemba from Ibo District (108 children, 73 women and 39 men). The Emergency Protection Units (EPU), under the coordination of the Protection Cluster, led by UNHCR, supported the screening of vulnerable persons among the new arrivals and the transportation of 39 people to the transit center in Pemba. UNHCR, Save the Children and IOM were present in Paquitequete beach at the time of their arrival and worked together on the identification of individuals with specific needs.
- **Multisectoral mission and scale up of assistance in Montepuez District, Cabo Delgado:** UNHCR conducted a multisectoral mission to Montepuez covering the areas of protection, shelter, site planning, and camp coordination and camp management (CCCM), to assess the situation of sites hosting displaced families, identify needs and gaps, plan urgent interventions/scale up of activities, and prioritize assistance based on needs. A total of seven sites were assessed including Nicuapa, Mirate Sede, Mararange, Mapupulo, Ntele, Ujamaa and Nanhupo B. During the mission, UNHCR worked closely with the District Administrator, the Director and technical

leads of Serviço Distrital de Planeamento e Infra-estruturas (SDPI) and with the Association of Volunteers in International Service (AVSI). Out of the seven sites assessed, the recently established ones in Mararange, Mirate and Ujamaa continue receiving displaced families relocated by the local authorities who were either living in areas close to the host communities or unable to establish themselves in Mapupulo, Ntele, Nanhupo B and Nicuapa, as these sites reached their maximum absorption capacity. In the sites recently developed by the government, there is an urgent need of developing services and infrastructure to ensure adequate protection, as well as the provision of water, shelter materials, and core relief items (CRIs). There is also a need to ensure access to health care and education in the new sites, benefiting both displaced and host communities to ensure social cohesion and peaceful coexistence. UNHCR is preparing an urgent distribution of CRIs and shelter materials in the sites of Mararange, Mirate and Ujamaa. UNHCR recommended the need to establish a transit facility in Ntele.

- **Protection monitoring mission to Niassa province:** from 20 to 24 June, UNHCR Nampula conducted a protection monitoring exercise to assess the situation of internally displaced Mozambicans and refugees living in Lichinga, Marrupa, Mandimba and Cuamba districts in Niassa province. This mission also aimed at exploring with local authorities the potential engagement of UNHCR in implementing protection, shelter, CRI distribution, CCCM, and livelihoods activities to assist displaced families in the province, while simultaneously working together with local actors and supporting capacity building initiatives. UNHCR met with the Secretary of State, the Provincial Governor, the National Institute for Disaster Management (INGD), the National Institute for Refugee Assistance (INAR), the provincial Police commander, and visited IDP sites in Lichinga and Marrupa, as well urban areas hosting displaced families from Cabo Delgado in Lichinga.

- **Distribution of cell phones to Protection Focal Points (PFPs), Metuge District, Cabo Delgado:** UNHCR continued the distribution of smartphones to UNHCR's PFPs in the district of Metuge to ensure timely and effective coordination and communication between UNHCR and PFPs in implementing protection activities through community-based approaches. The distribution of cell phones allows timely and efficient referral of protection cases to services and assistance such as unaccompanied and separated children, GBV survivors, elderly people, and people living with disabilities in need of urgent assistance. So far, 29 smartphones were distributed to PFPs in the following sites: Ntokota, Ngalane, Nangua, centro Agrario, Trarata, 25 de Junho, Manono, Saul 2 e Kuaia. In the coming weeks, UNHCR will also distribute smartphones to PFPs in the districts of Chiure and Montepuez. In total, UNHCR has 68 PFPs working in the districts of Chiure, Metuge and Montepuez.

- **Core Relief Items' distribution in Metuge:** During the reporting period, UNHCR provided technical support to partner Caritas in preparing the upcoming distribution of CRIs in Ngalane IDP site, in Metuge district, as well as on the evaluation of data collected during the verification process of families who will benefit from this distribution planned to take place on 1 and 2 July. In total, the distribution will reach 1,018 families/ 4,712 people.

- **Assisting people with disabilities in Cabo Delgado:** On 17 June, during the meeting of the Disability Working Group, co-led by UNHCR and the Forum of Mozambican Organizations Working with People with Disabilities (FAMOD), the group wrapped the finalization of the 2021 workplan. UNHCR highlighted the key indicators for the UN Disability Inclusion Strategy such as the need to strengthen data and information management on disability inclusion, as well as the need to empower and increase the capacity of local organizations and displaced persons living with disabilities. On 23 June, as part of UNHCR's project to protect and assist PWD, UNHCR Pemba, in coordination with Forum of Mozambican Associations for People with Disability (FAMOD), provided another eight wheelchairs to displaced people living with disabilities in Pemba city.

- **Gender Based Violence (GBV) training for Doctors with Africa CUAMM, Metuge:** on 17 and 18 June, UNHCR provided technical support during a GBV training led by CUAMM, UNHCR's partner for Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS), targeting 32 community volunteers (18 men and 14 women) in Nkotoa and Ngalane IDP sites, involved on CUAMM's GBV-MHPSS project in Metuge. The training included a community volunteers' module for Cabo Delgado developed by UNHCR.
- **Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) training for CCCM Staff, Cabo Delgado:** on 18 June, UNHCR, co-chair of the PSEA Network Cabo Delgado, delivered a PSEA training for the IOM CCCM Complaints and Feedback Mechanisms staff. A total of eight people participated in the training (six men and two women) as the focal points for receiving complaints and feedback from the community in IDP sites in Cabo Delgado. The training aimed at strengthening the capacity of CCCM staff in identifying and reporting complaints of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) in line with the PSEA Network standard operating procedures (SOP). The training was the result of ongoing coordination between the PSEA Network and CCCM Cluster to improve access to survivor centred complaints mechanisms.
- **PFP interviews in Nampula:** On 15 June, UNHCR conducted age, gender, and diversity approach interviews with 22 displaced individuals living in Corrane IDP site (12 men and 10 women) for the role of PFPs in this site. The overall objective of establishing a network of PFPs in Corrane is to empower displaced communities from Cabo Delgado living in various districts of Nampula through community-based approaches in preventing and responding to protection concerns experienced by displaced families. The PFPs will also liaise between UNHCR and displaced families, and work together with the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Action, the Ministry of Health, civil society, NGOs, community structures, and with other humanitarian actors.
- **Intentions and needs survey in Nicavaco, Metuge, Cabo Delgado:** The Protection Cluster assessed the main needs and intentions of the host community of Nicavaco village, Metuge district. This exercise ensures the voluntary, dignified and informed movement of families, taking into consideration the opinion and needs of the host communities to promote peaceful coexistence and social cohesion with displaced communities. Similarly, main gaps in other areas will also be presented to clusters, to ensure a holistic approach in the area.
- **Housing, Land and Property Area of Responsibility (HLP AoR) in Cabo Delgado:** The Protection Cluster continues holding discussions with the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) on the implementation of the HLP AoR in Cabo Delgado, and is coordinating the potential inclusion of new members in the AoR, as well as the engagement of relevant clusters. The first HLP AoR meeting is scheduled for mid-July, to coincide with the circulation of the drafted HLP AoR terms of reference.

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 25 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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