

Northern Mozambique Situation

26 July – 9 August 2021

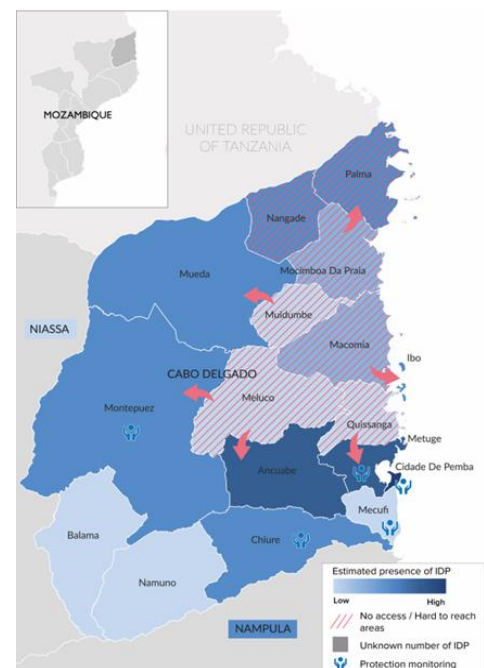
UNHCR and UNICEF, with local authorities together conducted a **joint protection monitoring exercise** in Mueda and Negomano **to assess the situation of forcibly returned families** who had sought asylum in Tanzania and pressing humanitarian needs in Mueda's main IDP site.

During the reporting period 334 Mozambican asylum seekers were forcibly returned from Tanzania. **UNHCR reiterates the need for all states to respect the principle of non-refoulement** and urges neighboring countries to allow families fleeing violence in northern Mozambique to be granted asylum.

Over 800,000 people have been forced to flee their homes in northern Mozambique as a result of armed conflict. UNHCR, with its partners and government, work to address their needs. **Additional funding is urgently required to scale-up humanitarian activities.**

Situation update

- Joint protection monitoring exercise in Mueda and Negomano assesses options to boost humanitarian assistance and address needs of asylum seekers forcibly returned from Tanzania:** UNHCR and UNICEF, together with local authorities, conducted a protection monitoring exercise over 9 to 11 August in Mueda and Negomano, in Cabo Delgado, to assess the situation of forcibly returned asylum seekers from Tanzania and urgent humanitarian needs in that region. UNHCR raised the importance of implementing protection activities and providing support to groups with specific needs, including unaccompanied and separated children, separated families people living with disabilities, gender-based violence (GBV) survivors, and the elderly.
- During the reporting period, 334 Mozambicans were *refouled* from Tanzania; to-date, in 2021, over 10,000 Mozambicans asylum seekers have been forcibly returned.



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

Response update

- Closure of the IDP Transit Centre, Pemba, Cabo Delgado:** The Protection Cluster, together with other relevant Clusters, met with the Administrator of Pemba on 6 August to discuss the closure of the transit centre that since March was temporarily accommodating displaced families arriving from Palma. The Administrator assured that the transit centre can be reopened should further displacement arise, in coordination with the Secretary of State for Cabo Delgado and the National Institute for Management and Disaster Risk Reduction.
- Protection Desks Community Consultations in Montepuez, Cabo Delgado:** UNHCR conducted community consultations on 27 July regarding the construction of facilities housing Protection Desks in Nicuapa A in Montepuez. Displaced and host communities, 48 people from displaced and host communities (14 women, 12 men, 12 girls and 10 boys) expressed concern about women and girls being prevented from accessing services, as well as GBV risks such as sexual harassment. These concerns are being addressed by UNHCR through community-based approaches to ensure that protection services are accessible to every person in need.

■ **Access to Civil Documentation in Pemba, Cabo Delgado:** UNHCR and the Catholic University of Mozambique (UCM) mobile legal clinic provided legal assistance to 261 internally displaced persons over 2 - 6 August (111 women, 80 men, 37 girls and 33 boys) from Quissanga, Muidumbe, Macomia and Mocimboa da Praia currently living in Pemba who required support to receive birth certificates. Legal documentation is key to enable freedom of movement, access basic services and formal employment, and prevent harassment and exploitation.



UNHCR and UCM are supporting displaced families in accessing documentation, including IDs and birth certificates ©UNHCR/Andrew Prior

■ **Intimate Partner Violence training for Protection Focal Points (PFs) in Cabo Delgado:** UNHCR conducted GBV learning sessions on Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) for Protection Focal Points (PFs) in Metuge, Chiure and Montepuez districts, reaching a total of 52 PFs (26 women and 26 men). The sessions were conducted separately for women and men in order to foster safe and supportive environments.

■ **Focus group held on youth engagement activities in Cabo Delgado:** UNHCR and CARITAS conducted focus group discussions with 83 boys and girls from displaced and host communities living in the districts of Pemba and Ancuabe to assess their main challenges, needs, and seek potential solutions through community-based approaches with the support of local authorities and private sector. The main challenges identified were limited opportunities in accessing secondary education and opportunities for supplemental earning, as well as discrimination and harassment of displaced boys and girls by the host communities.

■ **Protection monitoring exercise in Mecufi District, Cabo Delgado:** With the aim of building a joint and multisectoral response in Mecufi, the Protection Cluster, with Caritas and UNHCR, conducted a protection monitoring exercise in that District currently hosting some 25,000 IDPs. Partners noted the IDPs' limited access to basic services such as water and sanitation, as well as a lack of documentation which hampers movement and prevents IDPs from receiving assistance.

■ **Relocations of displaced families in Nampula:** UNHCR and the local authorities continue monitoring and providing support to displaced families from Cabo Delgado relocating to Corane settlement in Nampula. During the reporting period, 48 families relocated from Nampula city to Corane settlement, which is hosting some 1,120 families/4,692 people. During protection monitoring exercises in Corane, displaced communities stressed that the main reasons leading to relocations to Corane are linked to the lack of income-generating activities and assistance in urban areas in Nampula.

■ **Distribution of CRIs in urban areas in Nampula:** UNHCR supported the distribution of 321 blankets given to 52 displaced families from Cabo Delgado residing in urban areas in Nampula to complement the CRI distribution of UNHCR's partner CARITAS.

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 working groups on Community Engagement/Accountability to Affected Populations (CE/AAP) Working Group as well as the Disability Inclusion Working Group. UNHCR collaborates with other humanitarian actors to improve effective case referrals via the inter-agency helpline *Linha Verde*; and to ensure compliance with the principles of data protection and confidentiality when handling complaints and feedback.

As co-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. UNHCR's Shelter and CCCM staff continue to actively support respective clusters.

Financial information

UNHCR's financial requirements for the Emergency Response to the Cabo Delgado Situation in 2021 total **US\$ 24.5 million**. As of beginning of August, **only 28 percent of these needs have been funded**. UNHCR is grateful to donors who have supported UNHCR's response, including Denmark (\$766,800), ECHO (US\$ 1.6 million), Sweden (\$840,000), and the United States of America (US\$ 2.7 million). UNHCR is urgently appealing for additional funds to implement key priorities for its emergency operation in northern Mozambique in 2021. Overall, as of 9 August, **UNHCR's refugee and IDP activities in Mozambique are only 57 percent funded**.

Flexible financial support greatly facilitates UNHCR being able to quickly engage its emergency response and bolster neglected or under-resourced crises, as well as to 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.

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