

MOZAMBIQUE

December 2020

UNHCR declared an internal **Level 2 Emergency for the Situation in Cabo Delgado** in August 2020 and has significantly scaled up capacity to provide relief items and protection to the most vulnerable internally displaced people (IDPs), which number increases daily

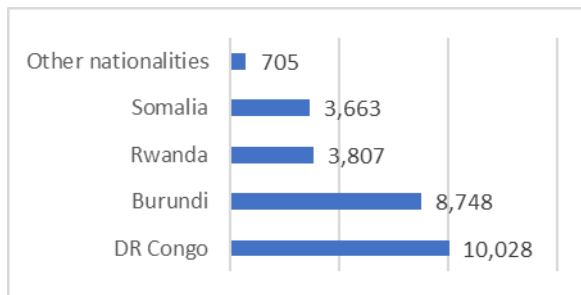
IDPs have mostly fled to urban areas in Cabo Delgado or to neighbouring provinces in northern Mozambique. Many also remain in affected areas of Cabo Delgado. **UNHCR is deeply concerned by abuses committed against civilians.**

UNHCR and its partners **adapted operations to the context of COVID-19 and stayed to deliver** protection and solutions to refugees and IDPs, in both urban and settlement-based areas as well as to host community.

POPULATION OF CONCERN AS OF DECEMBER 2020

530,000 IDPs in Cabo Delgado, Niassa and Nampula provinces.

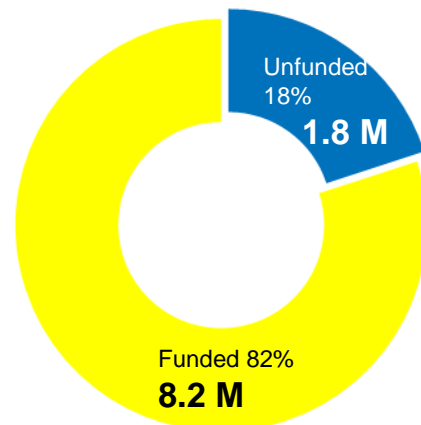
27,000 Refugees and asylum-seekers



FUNDING AS OF DECEMBER 2020

USD 10 million

requested for the Mozambique operation



UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff:

25 National Staff

27 International Staff including affiliate work force and staff on emergency mission.

Offices:

- Representation Office in Maputo
- Field Office in Pemba
- Field Office in Nampula



Distribution of food to IDPs in Negomano, Cabo Delgado, 170 kms away from the border with Tanzania ©UNHCR/Inês Castanheira

Working with Partners

UNHCR, as part of the cluster system, leads the Protection Cluster – including Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Child Protection Areas of Responsibility (AoR) – and extensively engages with the Shelter/Non-Food Items (NFI) and Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Clusters. In this role, UNHCR coordinates protection operations for refugees, asylum-seekers and internally displaced people (IDPs) in close collaboration with the relevant government institutions, UN agencies and non-governmental organization (NGO) partners. UNHCR is also leading the network on Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) jointly with Save the Children, as well as the Community Engagement and Accountability to Affected Population (CE/AAP) Working Group in Cabo Delgado.

The key government authorities with which UNHCR works and cooperates in Mozambique include the National Institute for Refugee Assistance (INAR), Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education and Human Development, Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Affairs (DPGCAS), and the Ministry of Interior.

UNHCR works closely with UN-OCHA who coordinates the IDP response in Mozambique, and with other UN agencies active in the refugee and IDP response including FAO, IOM, UNFPA, UN-Habitat, UNICEF, UN Women, and WFP.

UNHCR works with international and local organizations to support effective delivery of protection interventions to refugees and IDPs in a timely manner both in refugee camps and urban refugee-hosting locations, and in IDP communities and communities affected by conflicts and natural disasters in northern Mozambique. UNHCR's implementing partners include one international NGO, CARE International, and two national NGOs, Episcopal Commission for Migrants, and Refugees and IDPs (CEMIRDE) and KULIMA.

Main Activities

UNHCR's protection interventions aim at addressing the needs of refugees, asylum-seekers and IDPs, and promoting their access to public services. UNHCR aims, where possible, to support the integration of refugees and asylum-seekers into the host communities, and to promote peaceful coexistence and social cohesion in line with the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR). As of 31 December 2020, there were 27,000 refugees and asylum-seekers living in Mozambique. Out of this total, 10,000 live in Maratane refugee camp in Nampula Province, the only refugee camp in the country, while the remaining 17,000 live in urban areas in the provinces of Tete, Cabo Delgado and Zambezia, as well as in the capital Maputo.

On 8 of December 2020, the Government of Mozambique announced that there were approximately 560,000 IDPs in the northern provinces of Mozambique as a result of an outbreak of violence between non-state armed groups (NSAGs) and the Government's military forces, in addition to 10,000 IDPs in the central provinces due to the violence between the dissident wing of RENAMO against the Government. On 18 December, the UN and partners launched the Humanitarian Response Plan totalling \$254 million to provide urgently needed assistance and protection to 1.1 million people affected by violence and insecurity in Cabo Delgado, Nampula and Niassa. At present, according to UN Country Team, there are 530,000 IDPs in the three northern provinces, almost five times the number registered in March 2020.

Refugee response

Protection: UNHCR continues to advocate with the Government to lift its reservations to the 1951 Convention related to the Status of Refugees to promote greater legal protection for refugees and asylum-seekers, where local integration opportunities exist. UNHCR has contributed to improve legal protection with the implementation of a biometric registration exercise for refugees and the issuance of identification documents, together with government counterpart INAR.

Gender-Based Violence (GBV): GBV services are provided mainly by UNHCR's partners, DPGCAS and the Ministry of Health, through counselling, safe spaces and provision of clinical care. UNHCR is working to strengthen the capacity of implementing partners through GBV prevention workshops, assessments on GBV risks and response gaps, and recommendations on survivor-centred interventions.

Education: Despite reservations to the 1951 Convention, refugees and asylum-seekers have access to education, as well as the right to work in Mozambique. In the Maratane refugee camp, there is one primary school and one secondary school run by the Ministry of Education with support from UNHCR. The schools serve both refugee and host community children to promote social cohesion and peaceful coexistence. In Maratane, there are 2,757 children enrolled in primary school (1,489 refugees and 1,268 from the host community), and 713 students enrolled in secondary school (501 refugees and 212 members of the host community). At present, UNHCR is working with the Vodafone Foundation and the Ministry of Education to implement the Instant Network Schools (INS) programme in secondary schools in Maratane and Nampula. INS is an integrated platform that transforms an existing classroom into an innovation hub. Moreover, refugees have access to tertiary education under the same conditions as nationals, although the government does not provide higher education scholarships to foreigners. Nonetheless, since 2019, 34 students have accessed higher education through the DAFI scholarship programme (Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative) with the support of UNHCR.

Health: UNHCR promotes refugees' inclusion into the national health system including referral mechanisms, sexual and reproductive health rights (SRHR) services, prevention and treatment of HIV, as well as mental health and psychosocial support. To prevent COVID-19 in Maratane refugee camp, UNHCR has conducted information campaigns with refugees to promote frequent handwashing, social distancing and the use of facemasks. Additionally, UNHCR has conducted regular distributions of soap, and assisted refugees to produce face masks as part of the strategy to prevent COVID-19 while simultaneously stimulating livelihoods opportunities.

Food Security and Nutrition: In Maratane refugee camp, UNHCR, the World Food Programme (WFP) and the Government of Mozambique provide monthly food assistance to refugees and asylum-seekers. However, in 2021, WFP is expected to gradually reduce food assistance due to lack of funding. Through a partnership with CEMIRDE and the Scalabrini Brothers, UNHCR supports a complementary feeding program for children under 7 five-years old to prevent malnutrition in Maratane as well as farming activities for refugee families.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene: In Maratane refugee camp in Nampula, water and sanitation activities are implemented by UNHCR's partner INAR. In total, Maratane has 18 boreholes equipped with handpumps and a water supply system with two submersible solar pumps that supply a water tank with a capacity of 60,000

litres.. In 2020, and within the COVID-19 prevention activities, three additional boreholes were drilled and equipped - two with submersible solar pumps and one with a handpump. In 2020, 210 additional latrines were constructed, although the number of people per latrine remains high and represents one of the main challenges in the area of sanitation in Maratane.

Livelihoods: UNHCR engages with the private sector in Mozambique to promote livelihoods opportunities, provision of training and formal employment, for both refugees and host communities as a tool to promote self-reliance, peaceful coexistence and social cohesion. In 2020, the 'Graduation Approach' livelihoods programme in Maratane refugee camp supported 166 households from the refugee and local communities to achieve sustained income through the provision of training, financial education and mentoring to build confidence and reinforce existing skills. Through the Apprenticeship Programme, in close collaboration with the private sector, UNHCR supported refugees and Mozambicans to gain work experience through in-house learning opportunities and improve their chances of accessing formal employment. In line with the country livelihoods strategy and COVID-19 preventive measures, a group of 50 refugees and host community members in Maratane produced approximately 30,000 facemasks for the private sector and refugees living in Maratane, while refugees with relevant health backgrounds were recruited as community health workers. Lastly, UNCHR and GIZ are currently collaborating on livelihoods initiatives focused on the transfer of solar-powered productive assets, provision of training and cash-assistance, targeting approximately 50 refugee and local community households in Maratane.

IDP response

Protection: In December 2019, the Government of Mozambique ratified the African Union Convention on the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (Kampala Convention) and deposited its instrument of ratification in January 2020. Although this represents a milestone for the country in terms of IDP protection, the Government is yet to adapt the national legislation to the Kampala Convention. In this context, UNHCR, in accordance with its protection mandate, and in its capacity as the Protection Cluster Lead in Mozambique, remains committed to support the Government's efforts in the domestication and implementation of the Kampala Convention. The majority of IDPs in Mozambique are found in the provinces of Cabo Delgado, Nampula and Niassa, where UNHCR has scaled up its operations, especially in Cabo Delgado with the establishment of a new field office in 2020 and deployment of emergency response teams to scale up protection activities.

Community-based protection: Community-based protection is the cornerstone of UNHCR's strategy in Mozambique. In coordination with the Protection and CCCM Clusters, UNHCR is enhancing community empowerment through its work with 40 Protection Focal Points (PFPs) working in communities and IDP sites in Cabo Delgado. In 2021, UNHCR plans to scale up the number of PFPs to 150 in all accessible districts of Cabo Delgado. The PFPs are responsible for identifying and referring people with specific needs, including GBV survivors and children at risk, to appropriate services. UNHCR is providing protection training for PFPs and the necessary tools to carry out activities in their own communities.

In coordination with the Protection and CCCM Clusters, UNHCR is enhancing community outreach by strengthening a two-way communication system with communities, particularly in collective sites and areas where the largest number of IDPs are staying. Community engagement with IDPs and host communities ensures that communities are involved in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of activities and assistance in their communities. Additionally, UNHCR is setting up community complaint and feedback

mechanisms in Cabo Delgado based on consultations with the community, including the procedures to address PSEA complaints, such as protection desk and complaint box as well as information sessions on IDP rights, available services, humanitarian assistance criteria, referral pathways, GVB and COVID-19 prevention, among others. UNHCR, jointly with partner CARE, is conducting protection monitoring in accessible areas in Cabo Delgado to identify abuses and violations of human rights, protection risks, and displacement trends. Protection monitoring is essential to analyse protection gaps and address them. To reduce risks to affected populations, UNHCR is working to ensure that assessments of relocation plans for IDPs rely on holistic settlement planning approaches with relevant clusters, the local authorities, and in line with the Government villagization strategy.

Protection Cluster: As part of the Protection Cluster activities, UNHCR has Cluster Coordinators at a national level in Maputo and at a sub-national level in Cabo Delgado. The Protection Cluster contributes to ensure that protection principles are respected in activities conducted by the humanitarian community and local authorities to assist and relocate IDPs to safer areas. In 2020, the Protection Cluster coordinated preparation of the protection section of the Humanitarian Needs Overview and Humanitarian Response Plan for 2021. For this purpose, nine protection partners were mobilized, including AIFO, AVSI, IOM, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UN Women, OIKOS and Street Child, to strengthen the availability and provision of life-saving protection activities. At a sub-national level in Cabo Delgado, the Protection Cluster is leading protection assessments and mainstreaming protection principles on a local and field level.

GBV: In Cabo Delgado, UNHCR has conducted GBV technical training for partners, staff and GBV actors to build capacity on GBV emergency response and risk mitigation minimum standards. GBV awareness-raising on gender equality, different types of GBV and how to seek support was conducted in five IDP locations reaching over 1,200 IDPs. GBV safety audits have been conducted in three IDP sites to identify GBV risks and response needs and develop action plans per site. UNHCR has also been conducting service mapping to assess the quality of GBV services and develop referral pathways to connect GBV survivors with accessible and quality services. Moreover, in Cabo Delgado, UNHCR is coordinating the Inter-Agency PSEA Network and conducted PSEA training for partners, staff and community volunteer, including on complaints and reporting mechanisms. UNHCR is working with UN Women and UNFPA to encourage IDPs arriving in Nampula from Cabo Delgado to become actively involved in preventing and responding to GBV in a safe and survivor-centred manner. This focuses on the participation and empowerment of women and girls through community-based networks and protection initiatives. As a result, the agencies are coordinating a group of IDP women in Nampula that meets weekly to discuss human rights, gender equality, GBV prevention, and sexual and reproductive rights.

Shelter/NFI and CCCM: UNHCR is scaling up shelter and CCCM activities in areas hosting IDPs, especially in Cabo Delgado and Nampula. As of December 2020, UNHCR and partner CARE distributed Core Relief Items (CRIs) and shelter materials to approximately 17,000 IDPs in Cabo Delgado and Nampula. Additionally, UNHCR continues to assist in improving IDP shelters and the rehabilitation of collective IDP sites, including transit centres and community spaces.

Livelihoods: UNHR and GIZ are currently collaborating on livelihoods initiatives targeting approximately 160 households in the IDP and host communities in Nampula, focused on the transfer of solar-powered productive assets, provision of training, and cash-assistance. UNHCR is conducting a market and value chain assessment to identify relevant and viable sectors that can offer livelihoods opportunities for IDPs in Cabo Delgado. The results from this assessment will inform programming for UNHCR and other humanitarian

organizations to strengthen livelihoods interventions that could simultaneously enhance the protection of IDPs in 2021.

Financial information

UNHCR's new financial requirements for the Emergency Response to the Cabo Delgado Situation in 2020 – 2021 total US\$ 19.2 million. As of 13 November 2020, 39 per cent of these needs have been funded. UNHCR is grateful to donors who have supported UNHCR's response, including the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), Denmark, the European Union, Japan, Spain, and the United States of America. UNHCR is urgently appealing for additional funds to implement key priorities for its emergency operation in northern Mozambique in 2021.

The importance of flexible funding 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. They enable 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 which have provided unearmarked and softly earmarked contributions.

Special thanks to the major donors of softly earmarked contributions in 2020

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