

MOZAMBIQUE

January – April 2021

As a result of violence in Cabo Delgado since 2017, there are almost **700,000 internally displaced people (IDPs) in northern Mozambique in March**. Following the attacks in Palma on 24 March 2021, additional 31,000 people had been displaced to other districts by end of April.

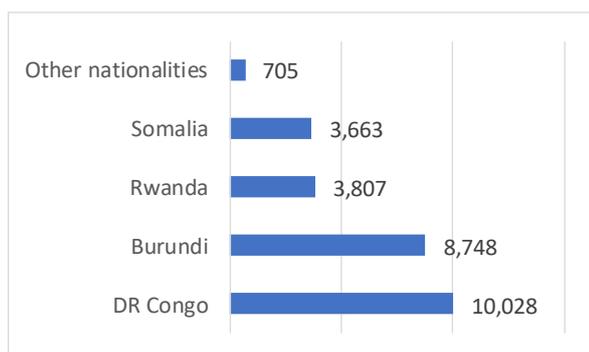
Among those newly displaced, more than 70% are women and children. **Displaced families are hosted within local communities and IDP sites** in several districts of Cabo Delgado, particularly in Pemba, Metuge, Ancuabe and Montepuez, which host the largest numbers of IDPs.

UNHCR and partners **adapted humanitarian operations to the COVID-19 context** and continue to address the immediate needs of IDPs and host communities in Northern Mozambique and seek durable solutions for refugees in the country.

POPULATION OF CONCERN AS OF APRIL 2021

697,538 IDPs in the northern Mozambique

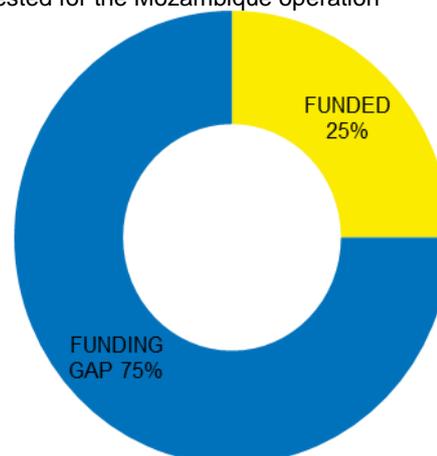
27,304 Refugees and asylum-seekers



FUNDING AS OF 30 APRIL 2021

USD 25.7 Million

requested for the Mozambique operation



UNHCR STAFFING AND PRESENCE

Staff: 60 staff members

22 National Staff

38 International Staff including affiliate work force and staff on emergency missions.

Offices:

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



Maria (in yellow) and her family fled from attacks in Palma in March 2021 and are currently in Pemba, Cabo Delgado (read her story [here](#)) ©UNHCR/Martim Pereira

Working with partners

In Mozambique, UNHCR works closely with key government authorities including 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 is also working actively with UN agencies and international and local NGOs 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 sites and communities affected by conflict and natural disasters. UNHCR's implementing partners include Ayuda en Accion, Caritas, Doctors with Africa CUAMM, the Catholic University in Mozambique, the Episcopal Commission for Migrants, and Refugees and IDPs (CEMIRDE), and KULIMA.

UNHCR, as part of the inter-agency cluster coordination group (ICCG), 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 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 with UNICEF.

Main Activities:

Refugee response

As of April 2021, there were 27,304 refugees and asylum-seekers living in Mozambique: approximately 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.

Protection: UNHCR continues to support Government's efforts through outreach and legal counselling to urban refugees in Nampula and Maputo Provinces. UNHCR, as the protection lead agency, is also assisting the Government in the domestication of the Kampala Convention and setting an example of refugees' inclusion in national planning at all levels. Since 2017, UNHCR and INAR are conducting the biometric registration of refugees and the issuance of identification documents. Until the present date, 24,320 ID Cards have been provided to refugees living in Mozambique. In addition, the Government has been supporting refugees and asylum seekers by issuing declarations stating their right to work.

Gender-based Violence (GBV): UNHCR together with a local women association called Ophenta developed a GBV Safety Audit in Maratane settlement. The Safety Audit provides a panorama of the GBV gaps and risks through a participative assessment tools as an evidence-based document to assist UNHCR in addressing the GBV issues in the settlement.

Education: UNHCR in partnership with the Vodafone Foundation started to implement since the opening of the secondary schools, on 22nd of March the Instant Network Schools (INS) programme in Maratane and Nampula with the aim to reach a total of 8,605 students, 40 teachers, 3,087 community members. Working under the guidance of the Ministry of Education, the projects benefits from a multi-phased digital literacy and pedagogical training programme, that supports teachers to utilize the INS within their daily lessons. As of March 2021, the two planned INS sites in Maratane and Nampula Secondary Schools, have completed classroom refurbishment, finalised INS solar power, formalised relationships with school personnel and the MoE, began INS staff hiring, and conducted inception training. UNHCR staff also began laying the groundwork for community ties, including the hiring of INS coaches from the Maratane Refugee Settlement community. In the first quarter of 2021, UNHCR also supported 10 refugees and asylum seeker students in having access to higher education through the DAFI scholarship programme (Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative), in addition to the 34 already granted since 2019.

Livelihoods: UNHCR is working with multiple stakeholders in Mozambique to promote livelihoods opportunities to refugees and asylum seekers, including government entities, civil society, UN agencies and development actors. More than 800 people from the refugee and local communities have benefited from the second cohort of the Graduation Approach livelihoods programme in Maratane camp. Based on voluntary choice, participants joined training sessions with specialized private sector companies focusing on tomato, poultry and eggs production, waste management and biochar production, sewing, among others. UNHCR is also working with MyBucks (MBC) in Nampula to provide bank services in Maratane settlement to promote the economic inclusion of refugees and asylum seekers. So far, 96 per cent of the Graduation Approach participants completed the opening of bank accounts. Lastly, to promote self-reliance and food security of refugees and asylum seekers, the Government has allocated 2,000 hectares of agricultural land for farming purposes.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH): In Maratane Refugee Camp, UNHCR supports the local authorities in developing and implementing WASH activities and strategies to ensure that refugees and asylum seekers have access to clean water; live with adequate sanitation and hygiene conditions; and to prevent potential outbreaks of diseases such as diarrhoea, cholera and COVID-19. In 2021, UNHCR mapped existing water supply infrastructures and is currently working on addressing existing gaps with COVID-19 additional funds, such as increasing water storage capacity and pressure on taps, as well as the rehabilitation of the Five Sanitary Blocks at the Maratane Primary School. As part of WASH community outreach, 20 health activists were trained to disseminate hygiene and sanitation messages in Maratane, and 20 water committees were formed to assist managing water related matters through community-based approaches.

COVID-19 Response: UNHCR is strictly implementing COVID-19 preventive measures during humanitarian activities such as focus group discussions with refugees and Non-Food Items (NFIs) distributions by wearing masks and respecting social distancing. In April 2021, UNHCR donated around 3,500 COVID-19 preventive items for refugees such as goggles, nasal cannulas and disposable gowns to the Provincial Health Service in Nampula. In Maratane refugee settlement, UNHCR financed the construction of one isolation and treatment center and one health facility.

IDP response

As a result of violence and insecurity in Cabo Delgado since 2017, approximately 700,000 people, the majority women and children, have been forcibly displaced in the provinces of Cabo Delgado, Nampula,

Niassa, Sofala and Zambezia. In addition to these figures, more than 31,000 people have fled from Palma district in Cabo Delgado by the end of April following the attacks to the city of 24 March 2021.

Protection: UNHCR is currently reviewing and analyzing with humanitarian, human rights, peace and development partners and DLA Piper Global Law Firm the existing legal and policy framework of Mozambique that cover internal displacement and protection of IDPs. The findings of this analysis will support the domestication of the Kampala Convention. As the emergency in Cabo Delgado is primarily a protection crisis, with various instances of serious human rights abuses recorded across the province, UNHCR response is mainly focused on protection activities and mainstreaming protection across all sectors of the humanitarian response. UNHCR and partners regularly conducts protection monitoring assessment in the district with a large concentration of IDPs to identify protection risks and supporting referral and response activities, including for gender-based violence, prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), child protection and access to documentation.

Community-based protection: UNHCR's community-based approaches aim at identifying, mitigating and responding to protection risks of displaced and host communities. For this purpose, community volunteers are being trained to assist in the identification and mapping of protection risks and needs, as well as the establishment of referral pathways for appropriate support and services. Through this programme, UNHCR has in place more than 70 protection focal points in three districts in Cabo Delgado: Montepuez, Chiure and Metuge. Additionally, as several families lost their identity documents while fleeing or had their documentation destroyed during attacks, UNHCR launched a pilot project in Pemba with the Mozambique's Catholic University in December 2020 to provide legal counselling and assistance to displaced and host communities. During the first two months of this project, more than 7,500 people received legal assistance from the Mobile Legal Clinics in Josina Machel neighbourhood in Pemba.

Protection Cluster: UNHCR leads the Protection Cluster in Maputo, Cabo Delgado and a Protection Working Group in Nampula to ensure a coordinated response of protection activities to those displaced. Activities implemented as coordinator includes advocating for the voluntary, safe and dignified relocation of displaced families in Cabo Delgado to IDP sites, capacity building of local authorities and communities. Roles of cluster leads also includes identifying protection gaps, organizing assessments, establishing response strategies, advocacy and resource mobilization. Following the recent attacks in Palma, the Protection Cluster established and coordinated Emergency Protection Units (EPUs) at the airport, port and transit centers in Pemba, who have been engaged in identifying and referring cases with specific needs; reunifying families; providing key protection information and key protection messages to new arrivals; conducting emergency service mapping; and mainstreaming protection, including physical safety, across the emergency response, in coordination with other clusters and the local authorities. Lastly, in the first quarter of 2021, the Cluster also coordinated the protection response following the landfall of Cyclones Eloise and Chalane in Sofala Province.

GBV: UNHCR is scaling up case management, support to survivors of gender-based violence and provision of psychosocial support to victims of trauma, especially for children and women who represent the largest population groups within the displaced communities. During the first quarter of 2021, UNHCR conducted a GBV service mapping of the existing government health and police services in the province of Cabo Delgado. This tool aims to assess the quality of services, capacity building needs and to establish referral pathways for GBV cases identified by UNHCR and partners. UNHCR is also conducting recreational activities and awareness sessions on early marriage prevention, GBV, and PSEA for adolescent girls in IDP sites in Cabo Delgado as well as at the transit center in Pemba.

Shelter/NFIs and Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM): Through the participation in both Shelter/NFI and CCCM clusters, UNHCR is advocating to improve existing conditions of IDP sites, including distribution of NFIs, better shelters and access to water, and compliance with physical distancing. In 2021, UNHCR plans to distribute shelter materials and NFIs such as plastic sheets, blankets, sleeping mats, mosquito nets, buckets, jerry cans, and kitchen sets to 150,000 individuals in Cabo Delgado and Nampula. By the end of April, around 4,000 people benefited from this distribution through Shelter/NFI Cluster. Within the CCCM cluster, UNHCR assisted developing a multi-sectoral coordination tool being currently piloted in IDP sites in Cabo Delgado and Nampula province aiming at monitoring service delivery, gaps analysis across the sites, and promoting efficient and timely response. UNHCR, as a member of the CCCM Cluster, is also assisting in the coordination and mapping of new IDP sites together with the local authorities to accommodate the growing number of displaced families in Cabo Delgado.

COVID-19: In April 2021, UNHCR supported the first vaccination COVID-19 campaign for displaced persons in Mozambique in Corrane IDP site, Nampula Province. During this first phase of the campaign, 140 individuals, all above 50 years old, have been vaccinated. COVID-19 preventive measures have been challenging to implement in Cabo Delgado due to the limited capacity and funding of the government and humanitarian organizations in responding to the growing and overwhelming humanitarian needs affecting all sectors, particularly in the areas of protection, shelter, WASH, health, food security and education. One of the main constraints in preventing COVID-19 is the fact that several relocation sites in the province are currently overcrowded, making physical distance a significant challenge, coupled with the lack of facemasks and limited access to soap and water for frequent handwashing. The Protection, Shelter and NFI, CCCM, WASH, and Health clusters are putting efforts in place to improve the existing IDP sites, including physical distancing, increasing the size of shelters, distributing buckets and Jerry cans, and improving access to water.

Financial information

UNHCR's new financial requirements for the Mozambique operation in 2021 total US\$ 25.7 million. As of 11 May 2021, 25 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), the European Union, France, Japan, Sweden 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 for a total of US\$ 13.5 million (<https://reporting.unhcr.org/urgentneedsinmozambique>). At the same time, the Humanitarian Response Plan totalling \$254 million launched in December 2020 to provide assistance and protection to 1.1 million people affected by violence and insecurity in Cabo Delgado, Nampula and Niassa, is only 10% funded as of April 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 2021

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Thanks to other donors of unearmarked contributions in 2021

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