

# Community-Based Protection Response

## Cabo Delgado, northern Mozambique

UNHCR’s protection response relies on **providing assistance to displaced and host communities** alongside local authorities and humanitarian organisations while simultaneously **strengthening and empowering communities’ structures** as part of the solution. for their challenges


UNHCR conducts **regular protection monitoring exercises to assess the main needs** of displaced families and those hosting them in order **to plan adequate interventions.**


In September, **UNHCR and partner Caritas surveyed around 900** families, out of which over 160 reported protection incidents.

**Additional funding is urgently required** to scale-up protection activities to address the urgent needs of displaced and host communities in the **short, medium, and long-term**, particularly groups and persons with heightened vulnerabilities.


### DISPLACEMENT TRENDS - SEPTEMBER 2021


 **745,000** displaced people in northern Mozambique


 **52** per cent of those displaced are children and **27** per cent are women

 **10,395** Mozambican asylum seekers forcibly returned/*refouled* from Tanzania in 2021


### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS JANUARY – SEPTEMBER 2021

 **12,044** people from displaced and host communities received legal assistance

 **5,174** people from displaced and host communities received civil documentation

 **230** Youth engaged in human rights education training and recreational activities

 **82** Assistance devices distributed to people with disabilities

 **68** Protection Focal Points trained and **59** Protection Focal Points selected to receive training



Eduardo, a displaced man in Pemba, Cabo Delgado, shows his ID issued with the support of UNHCR and partner Catholic University of Mozambique (UCM)  
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UNHCR, together with partner Catholic University of Mozambique (UCM) provides legal assistance and support in accessing civil documentation, including IDs and Birth Certificates to displaced persons and host communities in Cabo Delgado.

Eduardo, a displaced man in Pemba who benefited from this project says:

***"Receiving an ID was really important. I am now free to go anywhere, continue my studies, access basic services, and find a formal job in the future"***

Like Eduardo, thousands of Mozambicans lost their documents while fleeing violence or never had them in the first place. Civil documentation enables freedom of movement, access to basic services, formal employment, property and ultimately prevents statelessness.

## Overview

**The violence that erupted in Cabo Delgado beginning in 2017 has created a protection crisis.** Displaced people and host communities are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance and exposed to multiple risks. UNHCR’s protection monitoring reports indicate that displaced families experienced and/or witnessed multiple protection incidents and faced various risks before, during and after fleeing violence, including trauma, separation of families, kidnapping, child recruitment, extortion, rape and other forms of gender-based violence. The most vulnerable are unaccompanied and separated children; the elderly; persons with disabilities and medical conditions; survivors of torture and abuse including survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) and sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA). Tensions between local and host communities have recently increased due to limited resources available, such as land, water, food and shelter.



Photo: displaced family in Montepuez District, Cabo Delgado. ©UNHCR/Martim Gray Pereira

**It is urgent to ensure an adequate response that addresses the immediate, medium, and long-term needs of families forced to flee so they live in dignity and be protected from exploitation, discrimination or abuse.**





**It is equally important to support communities hosting them to ensure social cohesion and peaceful coexistence.**

## UNHCR’s Community-Based Protection (CBP) strategy

UNHCR works together with partners *Association of International Voluntary Service (AVSI)*, *Caritas*, *HelpCode*, *Humanity and Inclusion*, and *UCM*, as well as local authorities, Protection Focal Points, displaced and host communities, UN agencies, NGOs and different coordination clusters to address the needs of families forced to flee and those hosting them. The main components of UNHCR’s CBP strategy consist of:

1. **Expanding and strengthening UNHCR’s protection presence** including in hard-to-reach areas, through regular protection monitoring, assessments, case management and referrals.
2. **Strengthening data and information management** in areas of general legal protection; child and youth protection; protection and inclusion of persons with disabilities; and populations at risk of statelessness.
3. **Facilitating access to documentation** through the UNHCR/UCM mobile legal clinics; public legal education; and conducting awareness campaign/information dissemination on risks of statelessness and the importance of civil documentation.
4. **Strengthening community-based protection** through community engagement; establishing community-based structures, feedback and response mechanisms, namely through the use of KOBO survey tool.
5. **Implementing community-based targeted approaches** to enhance the protection of unaccompanied and separated children, youth, and persons with disabilities.
6. **Enhancing partnerships and coordination mechanisms** with displaced and host communities, local authorities, UN, NGOs, and civil society.

## Gaps and Challenges

-  **Limited capacity of existing services to assist vulnerable groups** such as unaccompanied and separated children, people with disabilities, older persons, and GBV survivors.
-  **Limited presence** of experienced **protection organizations** in Cabo Delgado.
-  **Insufficient funding** available to scale-up protection activities.
-  **Volatile security situation and constrained access hard-to-reach areas** with ongoing military operations in areas hosting vulnerable displaced communities.



## Financial Information

### **UNHCR is grateful for earmarked donor contributions to the Mozambique Operation**

Denmark | European Union | France | Sweden | United States of America

### **UNHCR is also grateful for unearmarked donor contributions**

Belgium | Canada | Germany | Ireland | Norway | Netherlands | Private donors | Switzerland | Spain

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