

MOZAMBIQUE – ATTACKS IN PALMA DISTRICT

Flash Update No.5

As of 9 April 2021

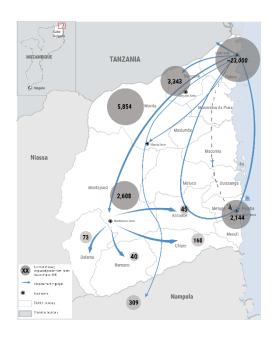
HIGHLIGHTS

- More than 14,500 people have arrived from Palma into Nangade, Mueda, Montepuez and Pemba districts since 24 March, and tens of thousands more are thought to be displaced inside Palma district or on the move to safety.
- Humanitarians, in coordination with the Government, continue to assist displaced people across the province.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

More than two weeks since the attack on Palma began on 24 March in Mozambique's northern province of Cabo Delgado, 14,576 people —44 per cent of whom are children—have arrived mainly in Nangade, Mueda, Montepuez and Pemba districts, according to the International Organization for Migration's (IOM). Some 436 older people and 181 unaccompanied children are among those who have been registered. At least 70 per cent of the new arrivals are staying with host families, who have generously opened their homes to those fleeing the violence.

There are reportedly thousands of people sheltering at the Quitunda settlement adjacent to Afungi, some 15 kilometres south of Palma Town, and thousands more reportedly on the move through the forest in search of safety. UNHCR is concerned about reports that at least 1,000 people fleeing from Palma Town who tried to enter Tanzania were not allowed to cross the border to seek asylum. Reports collected by the Protection Cluster indicate that safe exit routes from Palma are almost non-existent, with road access to Tanzania further north or Nangade District in the west are not deemed safe, forcing a difficult attempt through alternative routes in the countryside through the bush and forests. Among the main protection issues identified among displaced people arriving at various sites and transit points are family separation, unaccompanied minors, gender-based violence, single-women head of households with no family links in the areas of refuge, elderly, disabled and traumatized individuals in need of psychological support.



The UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS), operated by the World Food Programme (WFP), has had to temporarily suspend evacuation flights from Palma to Pemba due to the situation.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

In close coordination with the Government of Mozambique, humanitarian organizations are assisting displaced people and scaling up the ongoing humanitarian response in Cabo Delgado, in close coordination with the Government.

In Pemba, the Government with support from humanitarian partners has established a transit centre at the Sports Centre complex that is housing more than 250 people, including elderly, persons with disabilities and pregnant women. Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) partners are assisting the National Disaster Management Institute/ Instituto Nacional de Gestão e Redução do Risco de Desastres (INGD) in the reception and accommodation of displaced people from Palma. CCCM has coordinated site improvements such as the addition of lighting and site upgrades to ensure the space is safe and accessible persons with special needs. IOM is also engaging closely with the community to receive feedback and ensure that services are accessible and advocate for any gaps in service provision. The CCCM Cluster maintains updated service mapping to ensure partners are aware of referral mechanisms and beneficiaries are well informed on how to access services as well as a daily count of the number of residents residing in the site. In areas of arrival across several districts, CCCM partners are monitoring existing sites for new arrivals. CCCM is working with partners that are already providing services in sites, to ensure that displaced persons have access to basic services and safe and dignified living conditions.

Education Cluster partners are enrolling new arrivals in all resettlement sites and are providing accelerated school readiness activities in preparation to start school lessons next week in Nangua, Ntokota, Mapupulo and Nicuapa.

Food Security Cluster partners are distributing rapid response food kits at the arrival locations, including more than 40 kits for 200 people who have arrived in Negomano, more than 900 kits for around 4,500 people in Mueda and 590 kits for nearly 3,000 people in Montepuez. The kits contain cans of beans (5) and meat (10), high energy biscuits, water (5 litres), rice (10kg), cooking oil (2 litres) and super cereal (CSB).

The **Health** Cluster is providing health services at the Sports Centre complex in Pemba, including nutritional screening, sexual reproductive services, and mental health and psychosocial services. The Cluster is also providing and transporting medicines for displaced people to districts hosting newly displace people.

Nutrition Cluster partners UNICEF and AVSI have been undertaking nutritional screening and referral at the Sports Centre (Centro Desportivo) transit site in Pemba, with 72 children under age 5, and 11 pregnant and lactating women screened to date. Cooking demonstrations have been carried out, with enriched porridge provided to children and pregnant and lactating women, in coordination with DPS and SPAS, and a room for screening activities has been set-up and equipped with anthropometric equipment.

Protection Cluster partners have activated Emergency Protection Units (EPU), which include different partners with a focus on general protection, gender-based violence, Child Protection and Mental Health and Psycho-social support. The units identify and refer cases for immediate prioritization and follow up. The units can be activated in less than one hour, allowing a coordinated and simultaneous presence in different sites. The EPUs are divided in two lines of response: direct assistance to displaced individuals at the time of their arrival to Pemba; and case management and provision of services. The EPUs, in coordination with local authorities, supported the prioritization of vulnerable cases prior and after disembarking on boat and flight arrivals, identifying, and referring cases of individuals with specific needs, transporting to temporary accommodation centres and later working on case management and service provision.

The Protection Cluster has finalized the service referral mapping of the Transit Center in Pemba, and the implementation of specific services for the newly arrived people in Pemba, such as the legal clinic taskforce to support the access to civil-documentation started on 8 April at the Sport Centre. IOM has provided Psychological First Aid to hundreds of recently arrived displaced people coming from Palma, in cooperation with humanitarian and government partners. IOM has also been receiving referrals for in-kind assistance, including wheelchairs and crutches to reduce protection risks. Protection partners distributed 325 dignity kits from 29 March to 4 April to displaced women and girls of reproductive age, including women with disabilities, at the various points of arrival and at the transit centre in Pemba.

Protection partners conducted a visit to <u>Montepuez</u> to support newly arrived people displaced from Palma. The Intele and Nacaca sites are receiving recently displaced individuals and Cluster partners are developing a more detailed referral pathway and protection service mapping. The Protection team also identified several individuals that have been recently forcibly returned from Tanzania, reaching Montepuez after passing through Negomano and Mueda.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI) partners is providing emergency shelter and non-food items to most vulnerable households.

The Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Cluster, through UNICEF and Ayuda en Acción—in close coordination with the Government's Fundo de Investimento e Património do Abastecimento de Água (FIPAG)—has established emergency WASH facilities at the Sports Centre transit site in Pemba, including a 10 liter bladder tank, 20 gender disaggregated latrines and 10 bathing and waste collection facilities. During the week, 75 household hygiene kits were distributed for families present at the site, complemented with hygiene promotion messages. In Montepuez, seven WASH partners—UNICEF, JAM, AVSI, SCI, CARE, MSF, Helpcode—held a coordination meeting with the District Service for Planning and Infrastructure/ Serviço Distrital de Planeamento e Infra-estrutura (SDPI) to define roles and responsibilities and map existing response capacities. For water supply, JAM is undertaking water trucking and Save the Children will complement with water trucking and hygiene kits distribution from next week. For sanitation, JAM is installing communal emergency latrines this weekend and hygiene kits will be distributed by JAM and AVSI next week. In Mueda, UNICEF and JAM are planning the distribution of 900 family hygiene kits during an inter-agency mission next week and UNICEF and its partner Help Code will start the implementation of an emergency WASH program in Mueda from next week.

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

Humanitarian donors are working to provide additional funding for the response in Cabo Delgado, with additional resources in the pipeline and agreements being finalized between donors and partners for projects within the humanitarian appeal for the Cabo Delgado crisis. In addition to funding previously reported, the European Commission's Directorate General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operation (ECHO) is finalizing a contribution of 7.2 million Euro (about US\$8.5 million) to the 2021 Humanitarian Response Plan.

Pare a exploração e abuso sexual





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Looking for a family member?

If you are in Mozambique, call the Red Cross hotline in Pemba: 874580000 If you are in the rest of Southern Africa, contact the ICRC delegation in Pretoria on +27 83 743 9768 (English) or +27 83 743 9768 (Portuguese).

Procurando por um familiar?

Se você estiver em Moçambique, por favor entre em contato com a hotline da Cruz Vermelha em Pemba no número: 874580000. Familiares em outras localidades do Sul da África podem ligar para a Delegação Regional da ICRC (CICV) em Pretória no número +27 66 306 8939 (Inglês) ou no número +27 83 743 9768 (Português)

For more information, please contact OCHA Regional Office for Southern and Eastern Africa: Guiomar Paul Sole, pausole@un.org, +254 786 633 633 Saviano Abreu, deabreuisidoro@un.org, +254 780 530 141