

CONTEXT

Since April 29, 2025, newly displaced families have been arriving in Mecula District due to attacks by Non-State Armed Groups (NSAGs) in the localities of Mbamba and Macalange. As of May 6, 2025, records indicate that 405 households (1,537 individuals) displaced from these areas have been registered in Mecula Sede as new arrivals. To accommodate the displaced families, the District Planning and Infrastructure Service (SDPI) designated Escola Básica 16 de Junho as a transit centre while longer-term solutions are being explored. Currently, 119 households (458 individuals) are sheltering at the school, while 286 households (1,079 individuals) are being hosted by relatives and community members. The SDPI, the National Institute for Disaster Management and Risk Reduction (INGD), IOM CCCM, and the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) have jointly identified urgent humanitarian needs, including, coordination and management of the transit centre, non-food items (NFIs), food assistance, psychosocial support, family tents, dignity kits, and hygiene kits, with a particular emphasis on improved sanitation. Immediate action is required to address these critical needs and provide essential support to the affected population. The government's plan is not to maintain the transit centre in the long term, as the areas of origin have not suffered significant damage. Once the security situation stabilizes, the displaced population is expected to return to their places of origin.



IOM is supporting SDPI in the reception of newly displaced families, assisting with household verification and data collection in coordination with DTM. PSEA sensitization sessions have been conducted with the displaced population to raise awareness and promote safe reporting practices. Community representatives have been engaged to facilitate coordination with host communities and support the smooth reception of new arrivals. Additionally, IOM CCCM has established a Complaints and Feedback Mechanism (CFM) to ensure the referral of identified gaps and needs to relevant service providers, share information on available services, and encourage the use of Linha Verde 1458 for reporting concerns.



So far, no partners are providing protection assistance to the newly arrived families. One case of an unaccompanied child in need of support has been identified. The transit centre lacks lighting, and the classrooms being used do not have doors or windows, leaving families exposed to multiple risks. Men, women, and children are currently sleeping in the same rooms, raising serious protection and privacy concerns.



Food remains a critical and urgent need for the newly displaced families. INGD has provided food rations consisting of 245 bags of rice (25 kg each), 200 liters of cooking oil, 20 bags of salt (20 kg each), and 20 bags of beans (50 kg each) to support a communal kitchen while the families remain in the transit centre.



The classrooms are overcrowded at night, with only four of seven being used to accommodate families. There is a need to decongest the classrooms by providing family tents to be set up in the school yard.



Families are receiving health assistance from the nearest health center, located 2 km away from the transit centre. There is a need to establish a permanent mobile health brigade within the centre.



There is one hand pump in the school yard, which families use to collect water, and four latrines – two for men and two for women. However, the latrines are very dirty and insufficient due to the caseload, leading families to resort to open defecation. The urgent WASH needs include the distribution of hygiene kits and public hygiene promotion activities.



405 HOUSEHOLDS



1,537 INDIVIDUALS



28%



34%



35%



3%



0%



IOM supporting household verification exercise of new arrivals. © IOM/CCCM 2025



Site level coordination meeting at Escola Basica 16 de Junho transit centre. © IOM CCCM 2025



PSEA sensitization and information sharing with communities. © IOM CCCM 2025

SUMMARY

IOM is working closely with INGD, SDPI, DTM, and other stakeholders, including community leaders, to ensure that the affected population has equitable access to services. This includes proper registration, identification of vulnerable groups, assessment of urgent needs, and engagement with service providers at all levels to support the affected communities. The identified gaps and needs include – coordination and management of the transit centre, food, shelter and non-food items, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), general protection, WASH, health and nutrition. There is an urgent need to mobilize partners and resources to provide immediate support to the new arrivals, with a focus on protection, food, and sanitation.

* The response and assistance reported in this report is not exhaustive. You can get in touch on the email below to report any missing information.

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