

## Cabo Delgado emergency Situation



UNHCR distributed blankets and sleeping mats to over 150 displaced families from Palma in transit centers in Pemba



UNHCR is identifying and referring cases of unaccompanied and separated children to relevant services and partner organisations for follow up and assistance



UNHCR is identifying, referring and assisting separated individuals, establishing contacts and reuniting with their families

### Overview



Following the violent attacks conducted by Non-State Armed Groups on 24 March, over **16,000 people fled from Palma, in Cabo Delgado, Northern Mozambique, as of 9 April 2021** (source: IOM/DTM). Displaced families are fleeing by land and sea to the districts of Nangade, Mueda, Montepuez and Pemba, and the majority (72 per cent) are hosted by relatives and friends. **Due to insecurity in Palma, humanitarian evacuations by air and sea were suspended since 2 April, leaving thousands stranded in the area.** As of February 2021, nearly 700,000 people had been forcibly displaced by violence in Cabo Delgado and neighbouring provinces.



**UNHCR received reports that several families from Palma attempted to seek asylum in Tanzania due to the proximity to the border.** As of 9 April, UNHCR was informed that around 1,000 Mozambican asylum seekers crossed the border to Tanzania and were prevented from entering Tanzania border in Negomano . UNHCR urges neighbouring countries to respect the 1951 Geneva Convention on Refugees and the 1969 Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa.

### Emergency Response in Pemba



**Monitoring, assisting and referring displaced families arriving in Pemba, Cabo Delgado:** UNHCR monitored and directly assisted families who fled from Palma to Pemba, and continues to coordinate and deliver protection services at the transit center set up by the Government in Pemba city, which currently hosts 212 people: 70 women, 57 girls, 45 men, and 40 boys. UNHCR is prioritizing and referring persons with heightened vulnerabilities and specific needs to essential services, including unaccompanied and separated children, survivors of sexual violence, pregnant women, people with disabilities and the elderly. Although the number of new arrivals in Pemba decreased since 2 April, there are indications that thousands of families from Palma are still moving within Cabo Delgado Province. As of 7 April, among the new arrivals in Pemba, UNHCR identified and referred over 70 protection cases to specialized services, out of which 50 per cent were children, 79 per cent were women and girls, and 52 per cent had special needs, disabilities, or were in need of health or mental health assistance.



**Protection monitoring exercises and assistance in Mueda District and Negomano border point:** The Protection Cluster, led by UNHCR, is coordinating the response to displaced families from Palma arriving in Mueda, with OCHA and other cluster leads. UNHCR is also planning a mission to Negomano border point to support and identify Mozambican asylum seekers forcibly returned from Tanzania.



**Protection Monitoring exercise in Montepuez District:** on 6 March, UNHCR conducted a rapid protection needs assessment in Montepuez following the reports of the arrival of over 2,200 displaced persons who are accommodated in two sites created by the government already hosting displaced families from other districts of Cabo Delgado. Currently, there is a reduced presence of protection actors and protection response capacity in Montepuez, which represents a significant concern as the number of displaced people arriving in the district is expected to increase further. The main needs are related to identification and support to unaccompanied and separated children (16 identified in one site alone) and for GBV survivors, including MHPSS, shelter, CRI distribution, improvement of WASH infrastructures and conditions at the site.



**Core Relief Items (CRIs):** UNHCR distributed sleeping mats and blankets to over 150 families arriving in Pemba without family or relatives in the city and who are accommodated in the transit center.



**Community Engagement:** UNHCR established a Community Engagement Group (CEG) at the transit center (the sports center) composed of ten internally displaced persons (five women and five men) to improve the provision of information, awareness messages, community consultations, and involve the community in the management of essential services' provision and safety of the center and thus stimulate community based interventions. The CEG is in regular contact with UNHCR and each member of the group acts as focal point for different sectors such as protection, child protection, gender based violence, health, water, sanitation, hygiene, among others.



**Focus Group Discussion (FGD) with displaced children in Pemba:** On 6 March, UNHCR organized an FGD with 13 children (eight girls and five boys) at the transit center in Pemba to identify protection risks and gaps affecting them. During the FGD, children indicated feeling unsafe at the temporary accommodation center considering the large number of people staying in this site with no separation/private areas between families; the permanent loud noise at the sports center (due to echo/poor acoustic isolation); and the fear of going to latrines during night time due to poor lighting, especially for girls, to prevent eventual incidents of harassment. To address the protection concerns listed above, UNHCR is establishing a Child Protection Committee to seek solutions through community-based approaches.



**Women's day activity:** on 7 April, UNHCR conducted activities for women and adolescent girls at the sports center to celebrate the Womens' Day in Mozambique. UNHCR distributed capulanas (Mozambican traditional cloth) to 89 women and girls, and conducted recreational activities (beauty and crafts) with women and girls at UNHCR's protection tent reaching 30 women and 20 girls.



**Financial Information:** UNHCR's financial requirements for the Emergency Response to the Cabo Delgado Situation in 2020-2021 total **US\$ 19.2 million**. As of 5 April 2021, **39 per cent** of these needs had been funded.

## CONTACTS

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