

Community-Based Protection Response

Cabo Delgado, northern Mozambique


UNHCR’s protection response relies on **supporting the government with services and assistance provision to displaced and host communities** while simultaneously **strengthening and empowering community structures and social dynamics**.


UNHCR conducts **regular protection monitoring exercises to assess the main needs** of displaced families and those hosting them **to plan and tailor interventions**. In November, **UNHCR and partners Caritas and HelpCode surveyed 3,589 families**, of which 585 reported protection incidents.

UNHCR and partners **provided seven trainings to newly recruited and existing Protection Focal Points** from displaced and host communities on protection, GBV, prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, referral mechanisms, identification and assistance to people with disabilities.

DISPLACEMENT TRENDS – NOVEMBER 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 – NOVEMBER 2021

  **15,127** people from displaced and host communities received legal assistance, of which **7,426** received civil documentation

 **230** youth engaged in human rights education and recreational activities

 **84** assistance devices distributed to people with disabilities

 **153** Protection Focal Points trained and selected to receive training



UNHCR Head of Sub Office Pemba and UCM Dean at the ceremony to distribute IDs to displaced and host community members in Pemba, Cabo Delgado
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UNHCR and Catholic University of Mozambique (UCM) delivered more than 1,200 IDs to members of displaced and host communities in Cabo Delgado. UCM, UNHCR, the Government of Mozambique, and the beneficiaries, marked this achievement with a ceremony in Mahate Neighborhood, Pemba, where UNHCR also donated ICT and printing materials to UCM to accelerate registration activities.

"Having an ID is a basic human right and enables freedom of movement, access to basic services such as health and education, and the possibility of having a formal job. Promoting access to documentation is also a crucial tool to prevent statelessness" said Margarida Loureiro, Head of UNHCR Sub-Office in Pemba.

Through the Mobile legal clinic, UNHCR and UCM are providing legal support and support in accessing documentation to displaced and host communities in the districts of Metuge, Montepuez and Pemba.

Overview

Violence Cabo Delgado began in 2017. It has created a protection crisis. Displaced and host communities are exposed to multiple risks and in urgent need of protection and humanitarian assistance and services. [Protection monitoring reports](#) indicate that displaced families experienced and/or witnessed multiple protection incidents and faced various traumatic risks before, during and after fleeing violence, including killings, 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 are on the rise due to limited resources available, such as land, water, food and shelter.



Photo: displaced family in Chiure 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. 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 partners¹, 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 high-risk and 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 prevention of statelessness.
- 3. Facilitating access to documentation** through the UNHCR/UCM mobile legal clinics; public legal education; and awareness campaigns/information dissemination on the importance of civil documentation.
- 4. Strengthening community-based protection** through community engagement; establishing community-based structures, and implementing feedback and response mechanisms.
- 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.

¹ Association of International Voluntary Service (AVSI), Caritas, HelpCode, Humanity and Inclusion, and UCM

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 partners** in Cabo Delgado.
-  **Reduced funding** available to scale-up protection activities and service delivery.
-  **Volatile security situation and inability to access some hard-to-reach areas** with ongoing military operations in areas hosting vulnerable displaced communities.
-  **Challenges in deploying international staff** to Cabo Delgado related to visa/migration processes.



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UNHCR is grateful for unearmarked donor contributions

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