



Reporting Period: 23 March-04 April 2021

Mozambique

Cabo Delgado

Situation Update

No. 1

unicef 
for every child

Highlights

- The situation in Cabo Delgado following attacks in Palma District is still extremely volatile. Communications are limited as fighting continues.
- Tens of thousands of people are on the move to safer locations, of whom at least 45 percent are children.
- Within the population arriving at various sites, there are 97 unaccompanied children. UNICEF has provided assistance to those arriving to Pemba to move children to a safe shelter with appropriate mental health, medical support, and other basic necessities.
- UNICEF is providing safe water, latrines and bathing facilities, hygiene kits, nutrition support, and child protection support in a transit center in Pemba.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

The security situation in Cabo Delgado deteriorated significantly after attacks on Palma town and surrounding areas. More than a week after the initial attacks, fighting continues and populations continue to move looking for safe areas to shelter. As of 3 April, over 10,400 people have arrived in Montepuez, Mueda, Nanagade and Pemba Districts. UNICEF is extremely concerned that 45 percent of those displaced are children, and a reported 100 have been separated from their families; this number is likely to increase as more people and children continue to arrive. While some of the displaced are staying with relatives or in host families, others are in transit sites. The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs notes that before the attacks in late March, over 100,000 people were living in Palma District including a large number of IDPs.

The displaced population moved to neighbouring districts such as Nangade, Mueda, Montepuez, Pemba and Nampula province mainly by bus, but also traveling by boat, foot and air (evacuation flights). About 44% of the IDPs registered so far moved to Mueda, 20% to Pemba and main needs reported are food, shelter and key non-food items. On 31 March over 1,000 people displaced arrived in Pemba by ship but the disembarking process followed on 1 April due to strict security checks. Transit centres are open in Pemba to receive displaced without families nearby who can provide support. Support in other locations is scaling up as movement information is received. There are concerns that security in the area may further deteriorate in the coming days and weeks. Thus while activities continue, UNICEF and partners are on high alert. UNICEF, with other agencies, is scaling up assistance to address the increasing needs and dynamic environment. Coordination is also increasing to ensure that duplication is minimized, gaps are addressed, and scale up to meet the increasing need is prioritized by cluster members.

Situation in Numbers

-  **3,838**
children in need of humanitarian assistance
-  **28,000**
Internally Displaced People (IDPs) in Palma before the attack (IOM February 2021)
-  **8,166**
IDPs arriving in new locations (IOM April 2021)
-  **44%**
of IDPs to Mueda district

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

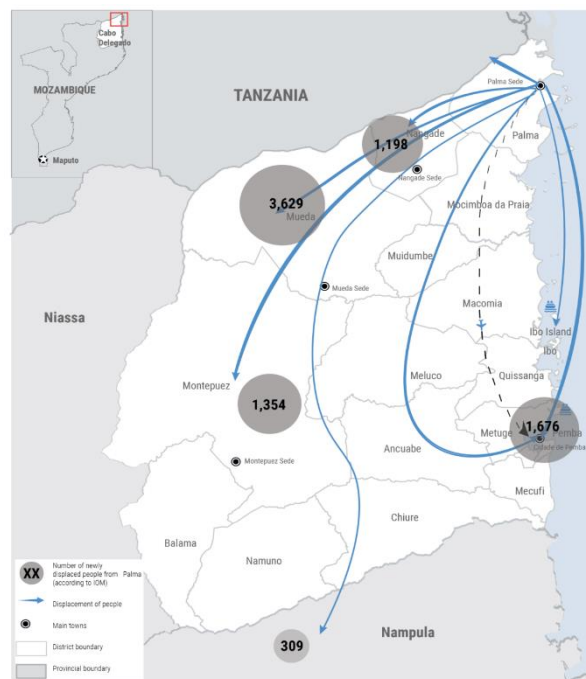
Health & Nutrition

UNICEF is prepositioning health and nutrition supplies at health facilities, IDPs camps and transit points to ensure quality care of children with severe acute malnutrition, diarrhoea, malaria and other childhood illnesses particularly in Mueda, Montepuez, Nangade and Pemba Districts where IDPs are arriving from Palma. Additionally, UNICEF will work to establish temporary facilities for the screening and referral of malnutrition and promotion of positive practices for infant, young child care and feeding, breast-milk substitute code enforcement, health seeking behaviours and appropriate hygiene and sanitation practices at IDPs camps, resettlement sites and transit sites with other humanitarian actors.

Existing challenges in the current response include the limited funding to scale up the interventions, particularly in hard-to-reach villages where people are arriving. Advocacy with the Government to allow health and nutrition services to be provided by non-governmental organizations is necessary to ensure provision of required support where the Government has limited capacity.

WASH

The UNICEF WASH team is responding to the needs of populations as they arrive in various locations through a network of partners and support to the government. Though UNICEF planned to distribute water purification supplies and hygiene kits to populations stranded near Afungi south of Palma city, insecurity has prevented the action. Supplies are now being redirected to Montepuez where arrivals are anticipated as people seek safe spaces and support. Additional support includes water services, handwashing stations, and latrines and bathing facilities in the transit site in Pemba, as well as distribution of basic supplies including hygiene and dignity kits and water storage containers. UNICEF is scaling up support in Mueda, Montepuez and other districts now receiving newly displaced people. Constraints in quickly expanding support include the low number and capacity of WASH partners particularly in rural areas, low contingency stocks, lack of reliable data on IDP needs and numbers and access to Palma and Nangade Districts as well as other remote areas.



Displacement in Palma as of 31 March 2021
<https://reports.unocha.org/en/country/mozambique/>



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Child Protection

On 29 March, eleven children, of whom seven (three girls) arrived without parents or family members, landed at the Pemba Airport via an evacuation flight of the UN Humanitarian Air Service. The Child Protection team, in coordination with the government, helped to move the group to a temporary centre in the city where they could rest, recover and find basic support including shelter, food, and clothing. An additional 12 children with their mothers arrived in Pemba in the following days and joined the group being hosted at the Lar Esperança centre while family members or alternative arrangements are identified.

In total, UNICEF has assisted 14 unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) to reduce their overall vulnerability during the chaotic movement of people from Palma. The Child Protection sub-cluster, as part of the larger Protection Cluster, is assuring that appropriate staff are at the airport or sea port to assist with arrivals as they occur and ensure that UASC and other vulnerable groups are treated as a priority and are sheltered from media and confusion at these locations. UNICEF is also scaling up other support and services in areas receiving high numbers of IDPs including Montepuez and Mueda.

UNICEF partner Italian Association “Amici di Raoul Follereau” (AIFO) is supporting the care of people with disabilities arriving both at the air and sea ports. AIFO has already provided wheelchairs to ensure safe mobility of persons with disabilities and injured people. Designated staff and referral services were established to receive cases of children and adults with disabilities requiring support.

Education

In response to the new influx of IDPs coming from Palma, UNICEF is preparing distribution of learner's kits to approximately 18,000 children, with additional supplies—including school-in-a-box kits and chalkboards—to schools accepting IDPs students. UNICEF is also looking at how to re-prioritize planned support for over 140 Temporary Learning Spaces (TLS) to districts receiving new arrivals. Existing challenges include the lack of classrooms to cover all children, ensuring enrolment of displaced children in new locations, and ensuring teachers with appropriate language skills. According to figures provided by the Provincial Education Directorate, there are 30,112 enrolled IDP children out of a total estimated 123,500 IDPs of school age.

Communications for Development (C4D)

UNICEF supporting the distribution of materials and messages to promote key messages for disease prevention, cholera transmission and more. Training to health promoters, community leaders and religious leaders is planned in the coming weeks, particularly identifying leaders within IDP communities who may be particularly affective at transmitting messages both due to their positions, as well as the knowledge of local languages including Makuhwa, Makonde, Mwani, Swahili and other languages.



Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy

UNICEF leads the WASH, Education in Emergencies, and Nutrition Clusters and the Child Protection sub-cluster or Area of Responsibility. All are scaling up coordination activities in Pemba to promote and ensure a well-planned response that identifies and quickly works to address gaps while ensuring a quality standard in line with global technical standards as well as UNICEF's Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action.

Supply and Logistics

In response to the deterioration of the situation, UNICEF is enhancing collaboration with other UN agencies to ensure a coordinated supply and logistics response. Given the logistical challenges, goods will be sent by air, sea or ground transport depending on weight and volume. Additional supplies are being released from UNICEF's stocks in Maputo for dispatch to Cabo Delgado and onward to implementing partners. Supply replenishment from UNICEF's global resources and partners is ongoing particularly for the required health and nutrition supplies. UNICEF is currently dispatching over \$500,000 worth of supplies prepositioned in the Pemba warehouse to assist in meeting the critical needs for the newly displaced, as well as those displaced before the recent uptick in violence and displacement.

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