OVERVIEW

Displaced families in Mozambique’s Zambezia Province continue to search for stability after severe flooding in early 2015 caused mass evacuations in low-lying areas of the region. After coordinating initial relief operations, the Government of Mozambique has shifted its focus to the recovery phase of the emergency through the development of relocation communities housing internally displaced persons (IDP) throughout the province.

In order to support these ongoing efforts, IOM has worked in close collaboration with the National Institute for Disaster Management (INGC) and partners Concern, Welthungerhilfe and World Vision to implement the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) in the most affected districts of Zambezia Province. The DTM is a data collection system that provides timely information to the government and humanitarian partners on the current displaced population and the present situation within relocation sites.

The final round of multi-sectoral site assessments was completed in 48 relocation sites within the districts of Maganja da Costa, Mocuba, Mopeia, Morrumbala, Namacurra, Nicoadala and Pebane. The assessments followed a door-to-door registration campaign conducted in late May that enabled the collection of up-to-date demographic information included in this report. A final report on the findings of the DTM will be released at the end of July.

POPULATION PROFILE

Assessments completed in late June revealed a decrease in the total IDP population over the past three months. Overall, population declines were observed in 30 of the 48 communities. As conditions have stabilized in areas of origin, a relatively small number of families have returned to the areas of their former homes to begin rebuilding their lives. Despite these movements, 12,396 families and 61,102 individuals continue to reside amongst the 48 evaluated relocation sites.

The IDP population is relatively young with 62% of individuals below the age of 18 and 22% below the age of five. Women also outnumber men, as 53% of all IDPs are female. Finally, the population remains geographically dispersed, with the district of Mopeia containing 17,641 IDPs, the highest number of all districts.

Thirty-six relocation communities were formally established by INGC throughout the seven districts during the initial response to the emergency, yet many displaced families were housed in unofficial accommodation centers. These centers were typically large, uninhabited pieces of land where displaced families flocked to create communities in higher ground in relatively proximity to their homes. The areas were formerly not part of official long-term plans for relocation, however...
recent efforts by local government have formalized many of these communities and allocated plots to displaced families. This process has validated the presence of displaced families within these communities and incentivized investments of time and resources.

Displaced families cited damages in basic infrastructures, destroyed homes and lack of safety as the primary barriers to returning to their places of origin. The majority of IDPs continue to state their intentions to remain permanently in their new communities. These intentions were reinforced by the growing number of households that have built permanent homes within the relocation sites. Improvements in water and sanitation were also prevalent as water campaigns increased the number of manual pumps throughout the communities. IDPs in the district of Mocuba benefited from 11 new water points installed in the past six weeks by the humanitarian community in collaboration with the Mozambican Government.

Despite these positive signs, the largest portion of the displaced population continues to reside in structures comprised of tarpaulins and forms of makeshift shelter. While some households, particularly those headed by single mothers, lack the resources to build permanent structures, other families displayed a lack of time and energy as they divide their time between their new community and the area of their former home where conditions for agricultural conditions are more favorable. Another contingent of displaced families continued to display reservations to build permanent structures, citing the lack of a definitive declaration authorizing permanent rights to their plot of land.

IDPs observed reductions in food distributions, yet many pin hopes to the recently initiated Food for Work campaign that compensates work done within the community with distributed food supplies. The search for sustainable livelihoods continues for IDP families as most live day-to-day and support their families through agricultural activities or whatever daily activity that can muster sufficient funds to provide daily subsistence.

**SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS**

Steady changes continue to be observed in terms of IDP housing. While homes constructed of tents/tarpaulins remain the most common form of housing in 30 relocation sites, the number is gradually declining. Many communities are responding to urging from INGC and local leadership to construct homes with local material including posts/branches, grass, reeds, mud and mud bricks. Frequently tarpaulins are used for an extra layer of roofing support. Twenty-seven relocation sites reported the existence of permanent housing while three of those communities indicated that permanent homes are the most common form of shelter.

Displaced families demonstrated concerns related to the preparation of food through the fact that kitchen sets represented the most needed non-food item in exactly half of relocation sites (24 sites). Blankets, tarpaulins and mosquito nets were also frequently noted as needed items. IDPs in five districts benefitted from recent tool kit distributions completed during the months of May and June.

**WATER AND SANITATION**

Improvements in water access have been observed in a number of communities. Drilling efforts by the Mozambican government and humanitarian partners have led to new water points in seven sites within the district of Mocuba, as well as sites in the district of Namacurra. These efforts are ongoing with plans to carry on in additional districts. Currently displaced families in 36 sites (75%) retrieve drinking water from manual water pumps, an increase in 8 sites since the onset of the emergency. Twelve communities still retrieve drinking water from hand-dug open wells or from rivers and ponds. This problem is particularly prevalent in the district of Mopeia, where IDPs in four sites obtain drinking water from open-air sources.
Further, water consumption has increased over the past months. The majority of families in 28 relocation sites are able to reach their primary water source within 20 minutes by foot, which has encouragingly led to higher water usage; 36 communities indicated that the average IDP uses more than 15 liters of water per day.

Sanitation concerns persist despite hygiene promotion campaigns being conducted in 46 communities (96%). Handwashing practices were reported as the norm in only half of all relocation sites (24) and open defecation is common in 12 locations.

**FOOD, NUTRITION AND LIVELIHOODS**

Many IDPs noted difficulties in obtaining sufficient food to support their families. Reductions and conclusions in food distributions were reported in all seven districts with the majority reporting that they have not received a distribution since April. The Mozambican Government and humanitarian partners began initiating the *Food for Work* program in many sites, requiring displaced families to work on improvements within the community in order to receive future nutritional support. In the absence of distributions, displaced families were forced to find other means to sustain themselves. IDPs in 31 relocation sites reported reliance on cultivated food from their farm plots in order to feed their families, while seven communities reported that most IDPs search to arrange daily labor or scratch together material to sell in order to purchase items.

This finding was reinforced by displaced families in 33 relocation sites reporting that the most common daily occupation is based in agricultural activities. IDPs in some locations tend to crops planted on their plots within the relocation communities, while many others leave their new homes for days at a time in order to work on land near their old homes in areas with higher agricultural productivity. IDPs in sites without sufficient options to farm reported common daily occupations of fishing (4 sites), miscellaneous daily work (4 sites) and tending to livestock (3 sites), while IDPs in four sites reported no common daily occupation.

**HEALTH**

The health situation in relocation sites has remained constant as IDPs in most sites continue to report an absence of health services onsite and the need to travel sometimes great distances to reach health care. Displaced families in 30 communities travel distances over 3km to reach the nearest medical facility.

Malaria remained the most frequently reported health issue, cited as the most prevalent problem in 40 sites. Diarrhea was also frequently mentioned as a health problem, noted in 41 communities. Severe cases of diarrhea were reported in a number of sites and three communities reported suspected cases of cholera that affected IDPs. These cases, though not active at the time of reporting, call for the need of continual monitoring of health conditions within relocation communities.

**EDUCATION**

Efforts have been made in establishing temporary schools; IDPs in 38 relocation sites (79%) noted that educational facilities exist within the community, often offering classes only for the youngest school-aged children. These schools normally provide classes for students in grades 1-5, leaving older children with farther distances to travel in order to reach class. Children in 10 sites walk distances of greater than 2km to reach the nearest school.

*Adult IDPs in the relocation community of Namurro, Pebane benefit from a recently created adult education program within the relocation site. Classes are formed at two different levels focusing primarily on Portuguese language skills. Two residents of the relocation community serve as volunteer teachers, leading the program which has enjoyed strong participation from community members.*
Families in most sites continue to report that the majority of children attend school; IDPs in 32 communities report that more than 75% of school-age children regularly attend class.

**PROTECTION**

Improvements in the security of displaced families were noted in many relocation sites across the seven districts. IDPs in all 48 sites indicated that men feel safe within their communities, while 46 sites indicated women feel safe and 47 sites reported that children feel safe within the relocation site. These perceptions were conveyed despite incidents of gender-based violence being reported in 13 communities and issues of child protection noted in 15 communities.

Thefts were the most commonly reported security incident, noted as a problem in 23 relocation sites (48%) - a decrease in 5 sites over the past six weeks. Seventeen communities (35%) indicated no commonly reported security incidents.

**COMMUNICATION**

IDPs in 37 sites rely on local community leaders for current information and news, while seven sites depend on local authorities and four sites obtain information from mobile phones. Displaced families in many communities noted challenges in communication related to a lack of electricity to charge phones. Topics of interest are varied with most IDPs desiring to receive more information related to relief assistance, shelter issues, distributions and access to services.

After relocating to their new community, displaced families in Murire, Morrumbala joined together to form a community court in an effort to resolve security issues internally. The three presiding members of the court were elected by community residents and hold authority to assist in a wide range of problems that may occur within the relocation site. The system has been supported by all IDPs and credited with improved safety in the community.

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<td>Alcohol drug related disturbance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friction among site residents</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friction with host community</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theft</td>
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<td>Other</td>
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<td>Domestic violence</td>
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**Most Commonly Reported Security Incidents**

**Principal Topic of Information Most Requested by IDPs**

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