CUAMM’S RESPONSE TO THE HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN CABO DELGADO

THE CRISIS

Since the beginning of 2021 the humanitarian crisis is deteriorating as a result of the the armed conflict. The recent attack on Palma on 24 March 2021 has forced nearly 89,000 people to leave their homes and move to safer places.\(^1\)

From April 2020 to April 2021 the number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) increased from 172,000 to 663,000 people.\(^2\)

In total, 88,704 (IDPs) were mapped living in sites assessed from 13 and 23 April 2021. Of the total 52% are children.\(^3\)

Today the area is affected by three emergencies:
1. The crisis faced by the Internally Displaced People (IDPs), who live in precarious conditions in various Southern districts of the Province due to cyclone Kenneth and the attacks of the NSAGs, where access to basic services, among them healthcare services, is limited;
2. The growing instability caused by the attacks, killings, kidnappings and looting of NSAGs;

Health, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), and Education services across Cabo Delgado have been significantly hampered. In Cabo Delgado, the access to safe drinking water is very difficult according to the damaged water sources. At least 38% of the displaced population lacks access to safe drinking water, mainly in Chiure, Montepuez, Mueda and Quissanga districts.\(^4\)

Cabo Delgado population is facing multiple health emergencies due to the pandemic situation and the recent armed attacks that that have increased the pressure on the already fragile health system.

Malaria reported cases increased in 2021: 343,000 cases and 30 deaths reported between January and May 2021. At the beginning of 2021, in the districts of Pemba, Metuge, Montepuez, Chiure and Ancuabe, a cholera outbreak recorded 3,141 cases with 16 deaths. However, from the month of April, the number of cases reduced, with no new cases identified in Cabo Delgado, since then.\(^5\)

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\(^2\) OCHA MOZAMBIQUE Situation Report, Last updated: June 2021.
\(^3\) DTM Northern Mozambique Crisis - Multi-Sectorial Location Assessment Report 2 (April 2021).
CUAMM is present in the province of Cabo Delgado since 2014 and today is assisting vulnerable communities through diverse interventions on maternal and child health, Gender Based Violence (GBV), Mental Health and Psychosocial Support services (MHPSS), COVID-19 prevention as well as ensuring access to basic healthcare services to IDPs.

**SUPPORT TO THE IDPs**

**Districts of Ancuabe, Chiure, Mecufi, Metuge, Pemba Cidade, Montepuez**

CUAMM is implementing an emergency response intervention that includes:
1. Providing emergency hygiene kits (soap, bowls, fabric masks, etc.)
2. Organizing integrated mobile health clinics (Brigadas Moveis Integradas), through the support to local authorities, to address the humanitarian health situation in targeted districts including the IDPs camps.
3. Establishing semi-permanent tents (TAMPs) within the IDPs resettlement sites, equipped to serve as temporary health post providing basic health care services - particularly OPD focusing on ANC, PNC and nutrition -, with basic equipment, drugs stock and WASH kits. Each TAMP has three dedicated human resources (1 medical technician, 1 nurse, 1 psychologist). Two TAMPs are already operational in Naminawe (Metuge District) and Natuco (Mecufi District).
4. Raising awareness among vulnerable communities and dedicated human resources on practices for disease prevention, promotion of basic health, maternal and child health and, prevention of sexual and gender-based violence and domestic violence, and COVID-19.

**HEALTH EDUCATION**

**Districts of Pemba, Metuge, Mecufi, Chiure, Ancuabe, Montepuez**

CUAMM is supporting the local health system to protect the local health staff, by providing trainings on standard operating procedure in health settings. Triage tents have been set up, which are also used, when needed, for treating and isolating cholera patients. In addition, awareness-raising campaigns have been organized in recent months through radio, TV and community activities, in compliance with the MoH prevention regulations. CUAMM is also involving CHWs, activists, community leaders in raising awareness and sensitizes the population (both IDPs and host communities) around COVID-19, as well as cholera prevention and treatment, access to sexual reproductive health and rights, and conflict prevention.

**GENDE-BASED VIOLENCE AND MENTAL HEALTH**

**Districts of Chiure, Metuge and Montepuez**

CUAMM is providing GBV and MHPSS services among IDPs recently settled in the three districts, supporting a total of 6 sites and more than 43,000 IDPs particularly focusing on:
- Training of community activists on GBV core concepts and case referral and conduction of sensitization and risk mitigation activities
- Training of community activists on MHPSS principles, community case screening, conduction of community engagement activities and referral pathways.