



Food and Agriculture
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Land Availability, Accessibility and Use

By Internally Displaced People (IDPs), Returnees and the Host Communities
in Cabo Delgado and Nampula Provinces, Mozambique

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Foreword

On behalf of the people of Cabo Delgado, I would like to express our gratitude for the valuable technical and logistical support provided by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in conducting this comprehensive study on the availability, accessibility and use of land by internally displaced people (IDPs), returnees and host communities in Cabo Delgado and Nampula provinces. This study holds paramount significance for the Government of Mozambique and cooperation partners in the implementation of programmes aimed at contributing towards the sustainable rebuilding of lives and livelihoods of the displaced persons currently hosted in various districts of the province. Moreover, this study furnishes vital insights into the agriculture livelihood systems, and productive natural resources, as well as assesses the level of coexistence between displaced people, returnees and host communities.

This report will be an important piece in the alignment of activities that complement the Five Year Government Plan 2020-2024, as well as in promoting the recovery and restoration of basic conditions for economic and social development through the Programme for Resilience and Integrated Development of northern Mozambique. We are greatly comforted to know that our displaced brothers and sisters have access to land. According to the results of this study, over 94 percent of the displaced have access to land, whether through government-allocated production blocks, loans, or agreements with host communities.

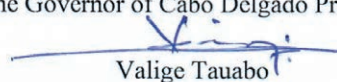
The Government of Mozambique, particularly in Cabo Delgado province, remains committed to fostering collective efforts in accordance with normative guidelines and respecting the Policy and Strategy for the Management of IDPs and the Kampala Convention of the African Union, together with cooperation partners to develop strategies to support IDPs, returnees and host families, without ethnic and religious discrimination, taking into account the size of their farms, the agro-ecological conditions of their production areas, as well as the preferences of the beneficiaries regarding the type of seeds, small stock, fishing materials and equipment, to guarantee food and nutrition security of the communities. The government will continue to prioritise dialogue in the resolution of any problem or conflict that may arise in the allocation of “*machambas*” to displaced persons by government entities or host families.

In terms of humanitarian assistance, the government’s focus extends beyond immediate emergency aid and encompasses development actions focusing on building the capacity of the extension workers and beneficiaries in relevant areas of climate-smart agriculture, tailored to the specific needs of the population. It is also a priority of the province to invest in infrastructure, especially irrigation, to address the water scarcity challenges for agricultural purposes.

We express our sincere hope that the government, through the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MADER), in close coordination with FAO and other agriculture livelihood partners, will effectively utilize the findings and recommendations outlined in this study to enhance the well-being of the population of Cabo Delgado.

Thank you.

The Governor of Cabo Delgado Province



Valige Tauabo



Acknowledgement

The FAO assessment team would like to thank the Government of Mozambique for the excellent leadership and coordination in the execution of the study in the provinces of Cabo Delgado and Nampula. The team would also like to thank various United Nations (UN) agencies,

Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), members of the Agriculture Working Group (AWG) and other partners who directly or indirectly supported the actualization of this assessment that was undertaken amidst a challenging environment.

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Abbreviations and acronyms

AWG	Agriculture Working Group
DPAP	Provincial Directorate of Agriculture and Fisheries
DTM	Displacement Tracking Matrix
DUAT	Right of Use and Exploitation of Land
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FGDs	Focus Group Discussions
GAP	Good Agriculture Practices
GEE	Google Earth Engine
GIS	Geographic Information System
HHs	Households
IDP	Internally Displaced People
INGD	National Institute for Disaster Management and Risk Reduction
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IPC	Integrated Food Security Phase Classification
KIIs	Key Informant Interviews
NSAG	Non-State Armed Group
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
PEGDI	Policy and Strategy for the Management of Internally Displaced People
PRDC	National Plan for the Reconstruction of Cabo Delgado
PREDIN	National Strategy for Resilience and Integrated Development of Northern Mozambique
PSIDM	Policy and Strategy for internal Displacement Management
RSs	Resettlement Sites
SDAE	District Services of Economic Activities
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SDPI	District Services of Planning and Infrastructures
UN	United Nations
UNHCR	United Nations High Commission for Refugees

Executive summary

An assessment of land availability, accessibility and use by Internally Displaced People (IDPs), returnees and host communities was conducted in the districts of Balama, Chiure, Metuge, Mecufi, Montepuez, Mocimboa da Praia, Mueda, Palma and Quissanga (Cabo Delgado province), Eráti and Meconta (Nampula province). The study sought to understand livelihood systems, availability, access and use of land and other productive natural resources, as well as assess the level of coexistence between IDPs, returnees and host communities. For quantitative data collection, a total of 2 113 IDP, returnees and host community households (HHs) were interviewed. 22 Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and 34 Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) were conducted for qualitative data. A remote sensing and Geographic Information System (GIS) assessment were conducted to assess land cover, land cover changes and land degradation over time. A prototype application was developed to facilitate the dissemination of the results from the geospatial assessment with dynamic visualization and to support informed decision-making. According to the assessment results, 97 percent of IDPs, returnees and host communities have access to land for agricultural production. However, only 15 percent of IDPs who have access to land were allocated by the government through District Services of Economic Activities (SDAE) and District Services of Planning and Infrastructure (SDPI). The remaining 85 percent of IDPs have access to land through borrowing, allocation by a third party, “buying”, inheriting, land invasion and “renting.” Only 58 percent of land users interviewed have some form of documentation granting them the user rights to agricultural land. Most IDPs and especially returnees perceive their land as not secure due to the lack of legal documentation of their rights and security in most of the districts affected by the conflict. Security of tenure is important for IDPs, host communities’ peaceful coexistence, and returnees for sustainable agriculture livelihoods and durable solutions. The remote sensing analysis highlights that forest area decreased and land degradation was more concentrated within a 5 km distance compared to a 5 to 10 km distance from the RSs.

The predominant source of livelihood is by far crop production, followed by livestock, fisheries, trade and small busi-

ness. Key crops produced are maize, cassava, groundnuts and sesame. Cashew and moringa are the main plantation crops produced. Only 68 percent of the interviewed people indicated that they produce enough to meet their HHs’ needs and 41 percent indicated that they produce enough for HH consumption and have a surplus for sale. To maximise agricultural production and productivity, the government needs to field enough competent extension officers to provide training to IDPs, returnees and host communities on Good Agriculture Practices (GAP), and animal husbandry in order to increase food production and productivity. Access to quality seeds, fertilizers, soil fertility-enhancing cropping systems and other soil amendments are also important to guarantee food and nutrition security.

Regarding the coexistence between IDPs and host communities, the study identified humanitarian assistance as the primary cause of tensions, as humanitarian partners, at the onset of displacement, distributed assistance to IDPs but not to host communities. This led to cases of IDPs being dispossessed of the land they were using by the owners. Dispute resolution mechanisms involving community leaders do not always resolve the issues of dispossession due to a lack of formal agreements, which affects secure access to land by IDPs. Other causes of tensions include the management and use of natural resources (notably water and forest resources). There is a need to build trust between communities, through joint livelihood activities and dialogue platforms, and strengthen the capacities of customary dispute resolution institutions, to deal with land and other related disputes.

IDPs, host community members and returnees stressed the need for consultation with the beneficiaries before the provision of assistance. Agricultural inputs support should include technical assistance and training on GAP. Further priority areas of support included, setting up small businesses, support through the value chain, and post-harvest loss management. The reconstruction of infrastructures is critical for building back, especially for returnees given that the conflict had a significant impact on the destruction thereof. There is a need to provide comprehensive agricultural support to rebuild the resilience, and self-reliance of IDPs, and returnees, building the foundations to achieve durable solutions.



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Background

Since 2017, northern Mozambique has experienced a conflict between the Mozambican Government, and a Non-State Armed Group (NSAG) locally known as Ahlu Sunna Waljama'a or Al-Shabaab, which has alleged links to Islamic State. The NSAG took control over coastal areas and urban centres in Cabo Delgado, most notably, of the cities of Palma and Mocimboa da Praia, as well as others such as Quissanga, causing ongoing mass displacement since the onset of the conflict in 2017. At the time when the study was conducted, and according

to the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) of November 2022 conducted by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), there were over one million IDPs in northern Mozambique, which is an increase of almost 300 000 people compared to the previous year. According to the latest Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) report (March 2023), over 40 percent of IDPs in Cabo Delgado are facing crisis or higher levels of food insecurity. Most IDPs are hosted in the southern districts of Cabo Delgado province and the northern districts of Nampula province.

The presence of international military forces, since 2021, composed of the Rwandan Security Forces and the Southern African Development Community Mission in Mozambique, together with the Mozambique Defence Forces, have pushed the NSAG out of the urban areas they formerly controlled, pushing them to the interior areas, mainly covered by forests. The restoration of peace in areas previously occupied by NSAG, such as Palma, Mocimboa da Praia, and Quissanga, has allowed IDPs to return to their areas of origin. According to the Round 17 of the IOM DTM, around 30 percent of IDPs had returned to their areas of origin at the time the study was conducted.

In Mozambique over 80 percent of rural people derive their livelihoods and income from subsistence agriculture on land holdings that are generally of sizes varying between 0.5 and 2 hectares and despite the ongoing crisis, displaced people - whether they have returned to their communities of origin or are now living in new communities - wish to continue pursuing their livelihoods. To allow IDPs to continue with their agricultural livelihoods, the Government of Mozambique cleared areas of land to allocate them to IDPs. These areas are called production blocks, which are subsequently divided into land parcels of around 0.5 hectares, which are allocated to IDPs. These small parcels of land (crop fields) are locally known as *machambas*. On the other hand, the Government of Mozambique allocated land for housing to the IDPs, known as Resettlement Sites (RSs). The RSs are usually located next to an already existing village or urban centre, however, the production blocks, are at a varying distance from the RSs, depending on the district. Availability and secure access to adequate land for agriculture are central to achieving self-reliance and sustainable livelihoods for displaced people, to prevent food insecurity and ongoing displacement.

Forced displacement comes with the loss of livelihoods, assets and social safety nets, the subsequent trauma of witnessing and suffering violence, and having to leave everything behind. The skills of IDPs may vary depending on their area of origin and original livelihood, which will impact their ability to adapt to the areas where they resettled, especially if the livelihood opportunities available do not match theirs. All this makes IDPs extremely vulnerable, and therefore, it is of utmost importance to understand their specific realities, needs, background and skills, for governments, the UN, and other stakeholders to respond effectively.

The Government of Mozambique put in place several frameworks to respond to the crisis, particularly Mozambique's Policy and Strategy for internal Displacement Management (PSiDM), the National Strategy for Resilience and Integrated Development of Northern Mozambique (PREDIN), the National Plan for the Reconstruction of Cabo Delgado (PRDC) and the Guiding Principle on Return, Relocation and Resettlement. These frameworks align with the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa, ratified by the Government of Mozambique in 2019.

Governments and other stakeholders, including UN agencies, must address the immediate situation of IDPs' diverse and context specific issues while simultaneously working towards achieving durable solutions. Durable solutions are achieved when the displaced are no longer in need of protection or humanitarian assistance because of displacement and can fully enjoy their human rights without discrimination. Durable solutions include local integration in the displacement site, return to the place of origin, or resettlement in another area. To this end, the Government of Mozambique, the UN and other partners must work across the Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDP) Nexus, investing in IDP resilience and self-reliance, alongside complementary short-term humanitarian support to meet basic needs, while contributing to local-level peace.

However, there is a global gap in data about IDP needs, capacities, and priorities, and humanitarian assistance that does not take those considerations into account often remains stuck in short-term funding cycles focused on the immediate provision of emergency aid, not addressing issues including livelihoods, natural resource management, and peaceful coexistence. This study is an effort by FAO to address this data gap, and to work towards building durable solutions for IDPs in partnership with the government. The Government of Mozambique recognized this gap specifically in information on land availability, accessibility and use by persons affected by forced displacement. Given that land is key for agricultural livelihoods, food security, self-reliance, resilience, and the achievement of durable solutions in rural areas, the Government of Mozambique requested FAO to conduct a study on the availability, access and use of land by IDPs, host communities and returnees in Cabo Delgado and Nampula provinces.

Objectives

The main objective of the study was to assess through an integrated approach land availability, accessibility and use by the IDPs, returnees and host communities in Cabo Delgado and Nampula provinces to ascertain its impact on food production and livelihoods. The assessment sought to understand liveli-

hood systems, access to and use of land and other productive natural resources, as well as assess the level of peaceful coexistence from the perspective of both the displaced people, returnees and host communities, combining data and information from different domains and sources.

Methodology

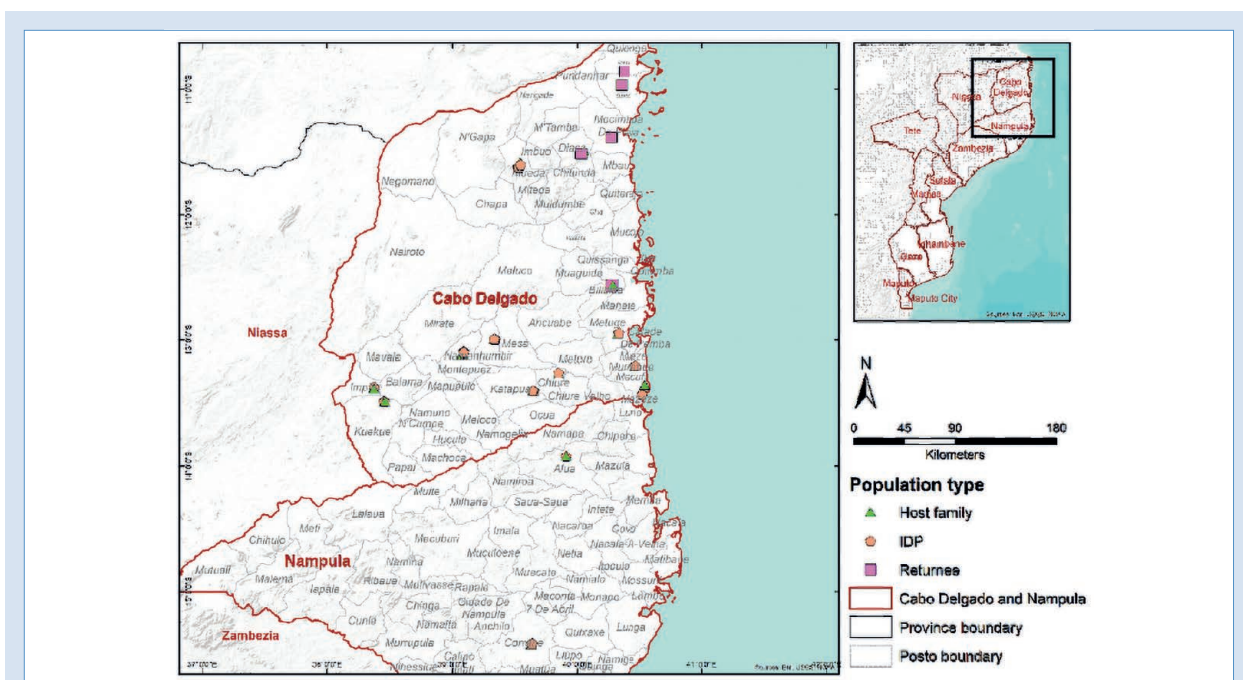
The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) conducted the study in collaboration with the Government of Mozambique through the Provincial Directorate of Agriculture and Fisheries (DPAP), National Institute for Disaster Management and Risk Reduction (INGD), Provincial Directorate of Land and Environment, District Services of Economic Activities (SDAE) and District Services of Planning and Infrastructures (SDPI). The field data collection took place between 03 and 15 March 2023.

OVERVIEW OF STUDY AREAS

The survey covered two provinces, Cabo Delgado and Nampula. The data was collected in eleven districts. These were Quissanga, Mocimboa da Praia, Palma, Chiúre, Montepuez, Balama, Metuge, Mecúfi, Mueda districts in Cabo Delgado and Erati and Meconta in Nampula.

Thanks to the increased security situation due to the presence of international security forces, IDPs started to return to Quissanga, Palma and Mocimboa da Praia in 2022. In these three districts, the team surveyed returnees. The nine remaining districts were hosting IDPs in RSs, and thus, the team targeted IDPs and host communities in such districts.

FIGURE 1 Study sites in Nampula and Cabo Delgado, Mozambique



Sources: Administrative boundaries from the Humanitarian Data Exchange platform (HDX); study sites from the field assessment.

SAMPLING FRAME, SAMPLE SIZE AND DATA COLLECTION

The districts and their corresponding RSs and communities were selected based on the number of displaced persons living in the RSs, the number of HHs hosting displaced persons or families in the host communities, the number of returnees in the district of origin and the security conditions on the sites.

Based on the INGD lists of the population of displaced persons and returnees updated as of 2023, nine districts namely Chiúre, Montepuez, Balama, Quissanga, Metuge, Mecúfi, Mueda, Mocímboa da Praia and Palma in Cabo Delgado province and Erati and Meconta in Nampula province were selected. Using the same criteria, 29 RSs were selected across the eleven districts.

TABLE 1 Household population by the selected resettlement sites

PROVINCE	DISTRICT	RESETTLEMENT SITE/ HOST COMMUNITY	POPULATION GROUP (HHS)	TOTAL # HH PER RESETTLEMENT SITE	TOTAL # OF HHs PER DISTRICT
Cabo Delgado	Chiure	Marrupa	IDPs / Host community	1 059	6 081
		Meculane	IDPs / Host community	1 099	
		Katapua	IDPs / Host community	950	
		Maningane	IDPs / Host community	2 410	
		Megaruma	IDPs / Host community	563	
	Balama	Impiri	IDPs / Host community	520	740
		Kwekwe	IDPs / Host community	220	
	Montepuez	Nacaca	IDPs / Host community	4 137	14 230
		Mapupulo-Piloto	IDPs / Host community	1 266	
		Ntele	IDPs / Host community	7 782	
		Nanhupo B	IDPs / Host community	511	
		Mararrange	IDPs / Host community	534	
	Mecufi	Murrebwe	IDPs / Host community	600	1 250
		Sambene	IDPs / Host community	650	
	Metuge	Ngalane	IDPs / Host community	1 498	4 222
		Ntokota	IDPs / Host community	1 900	
		Nanlia	IDPs / Host community	594	
		Mieze	IDPs / Host community	230	
	Mueda	Eduardo Mondlane	IDPs / Host community	2 341	5 707
		Mpeme	IDPs / Host community	1 560	
Lyanda		IDPs / Host community	1 806		
Palma	Quionga	Returnees / Host community	1 982	10 097	
	Palma Sede	Returnees / Host community	6 095		
	Mute	Returnees / Host community	914		
	Senga	Returnees / Host community	1 106		
M. da Praia	Sede	Returnees / Host community	12 202	12 202	
Quissanga	Sede and Bilibiza	Returnees / Host community	2 809	2 809	
Nampula	Erati	Alua	IDPs / Host community	970	970
	Meconta	Corrane	IDPs / Host community	1 600	1 600
Total				59 908	59 908

The minimum sample size per district for sub-groups of interest (IDP, host community members and returnees) was estimated using the following sample formula:

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N * (e^2)}$$

A 35 percent sample quota was implemented on the host families to ensure findings on these types of HHs were representative. The sample distribution summarized in the table below is a reliable and good representation of the situation on the ground in terms of the sub-groups. Using a margin of error of seven percent and 95 percent level of confidence, a total of 2 066 HHs were targeted for the 11 districts.

TABLE 2 Sample size distributed by district

PROVINCE	DISTRICT	POPULATION GROUP (HHs)	TOTAL # OF HHs	% OF SAMPLE QUOTA FOR HOST COMMUNITY	SAMPLE SIZE
Cabo Delgado	Chiure	IDPs / Host community	6 081	35	197
	Balama	IDPs / Host community	740	35	160
	Montepuez	IDPs / Host community	14 230	35	201
	Mecufi	IDPs / Host community	1 250	35	175
	Metuge	IDPs / Host community	4 222	35	195
	Mueda	IDPs / Host community	5 707	35	197
	Palma	Returnees / Host community	10 097	-	200
	M. da Praia	Returnees / Host community	12 202	-	201
	Quissanga	Returnees / Host community	2 809	-	190
Nampula	Erati	IDPs / Host community	970	35	169
	Meconta	IDPs / Host community	1 600	35	181
Total			59 908		2 066



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A multistage sample design, drawing a simple random sample (SRS) stratified by population groups in each of the selected districts was employed to select 2 066 HHs. The observation units comprised internally displaced HHs living in RSs, those living in host family and returnee HHs.

Within each RSs and/or community, a list of all HHs was drawn up with the local leaders and district officials. Each HH was listed and assigned a number. Simple random sampling technique was used to select HHs. For the randomization process, random numbers were generated in Microsoft Excel and then they were sorted from smallest to largest. Based on the calculated sample size in each RSs, the smallest numbers were selected for the sample. In case of absence, denial or other reasons, the next smallest num-

ber in the list that has not been selected was selected. The procedure was repeated until enough potential respondents were found.

The study combined both quantitative, qualitative and remote sensing methods for the data collection. The survey was conducted through face-to-face interviews at the HH level. Quantitative data were collected using a structured questionnaire uploaded in KoboToolbox a web-based platform for data collection. A total of 2 113 HHs were interviewed. As data were cleaned and verified, frequency tables were computed, and findings disaggregated by population group, location and gender of the HH head. For continuous variables, mean values are used. Data analysis was done using Stata, a statistical package for data analysis.

TABLE 3 Number of HHs interviewed by population type

PROVINCE	DISTRICT	IDP	HHS INTERVIEWED		TOTAL
			HOST FAMILY	RETURNEES	
Cabo Delgado	Balama	102	66	0	168
	Chiure	145	80	0	225
	Mecufi	96	57	0	153
	Metuge	114	75	0	189
	Mocimboa da Praia	0	20	189	209
	Moeda	145	56	0	201
	Montepuez	155	49	0	204
	Palma	0	27	183	210
	Quissanga	0	51	149	200
Nampula	Erati	20	175	0	195
	Meconta	100	59	0	159
Total		877	715	521	2 113

Techniques of data collection included FGDs with participants representative of men and women from the IDPs, host communities, and returnees and KIIs with government authorities at provincial and district level, IDP, returnee and host community leaders and community members. The FGDs were separately conducted with IDPs and host communities. FGDs were conducted with both male and female, but subsequently, female participants were separated, and specific questions were asked to them. A total of 56 interviews were conducted, 22 being FGDs and 34 KIIs. The data were then transcribed and analysed using in first stage deductive and inductive codes.

In addition to direct observation, changes in agriculture, forest, biomass, and land degradation were assessed using geospatial technologies to provide spatial-explicit in-

formation on the changes in and around the RSs and in production blocks. The land cover classes of the national land cover map of 2016¹ were considered for land cover mapping and subsequent assessment. Training samples for the land cover mapping were collected from the national map by allocating two hundred randomly selected sample points for each of the land covers. Outliers in the training data for each of the land cover classes were identified using several spectral bands and indices and excluded from further analysis. Analysis Ready Data from Sentinel 2, available through the Google Earth Engine (GEE), were retrieved for the development of land cover maps of 2016 (before) and 2021 (after). All images from January to December for the years 2016 and 2021 were used.

¹ FNDS (2020). Mozambique Forest Cover Map 2016 Report. Maputo, Mozambique.

Clouds were masked and transformed into temporal composites to achieve spatially homogenous and temporally equidistant images, allowing a uniform processing framework for the area of interest. Apart from satellite images, ancillary data used for mapping land cover were elevation, slope and aspect (derived from SRTM 30m data). An Object-Based Image Analysis approach was adopted to create image objects. A wide range of spectral and spatial features were considered in the classification process. For land cover classification, Random Forest, a popular supervised machine learning algorithm, was used. A land cover change map was prepared by overlaying the land cover maps of 2016 and 2021 and subsequently used for biomass change analysis. Land degradation assessment was conducted using the SEPAL SDG 15.3.1 module following the good practice guidance on SDG indicator 15.3.1². A prototype GEE App³ has been developed to facilitate dissemination of the results with dynamic visualization and to support informed decision making on allocating land with flexible multicriteria analysis. In particular, through the GEE App user can select any resettlement site and choose a buffer distance to visualize land cover changes between 2016 (before) to 2021 (after) and land degradation during baseline (2000-2015) and monitoring (2016-2021) periods. Users can also assess the availability of land within the chosen area of interest meeting the selected criteria (e.g., 2016 land covers, 2021 land cover, topography, etc.). The app will be further enhanced considering the availability of new data and user needs.

² <https://www.unccd.int/resources/manuals-and-guides/good-practice-guidance-sdg-indicator-1531-proportion-land-degraded>

³ <https://himal781.users.earthengine.app/view/mzidpv1>

LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

Limitations to this study include:

- The movement of large numbers of IDPs moving every day outside of the settled RSS hampered efforts to visit and collect data in some areas.
- Travel restrictions because of ongoing local conflicts forced the assessment team to exclude some potential areas from the assessment.
- Due to security issues, particularly in the northern districts of Cabo Delgado, the HHs selected to be interviewed were asked to gather in a specific and safe area, violating the principle of conducting at the HH level, posing challenges to collecting geographic references at the HH level.
- The variety of languages spoken made, at times, three-level translations necessary, from local languages (mostly Makonde and Makua) to Portuguese and to English.

However, the analysis presented offers insights and adds nuance to the discussion of land tenure and use, sustainable livelihoods as a component of durable solutions for displaced persons, returnees and host communities. Furthermore, the triangulation of quantitative data with qualitative data provides reinforcement and correction to quantitative data analysis.

Limitations to the geospatial assessments include:

- Lack of ground data and low accuracy of the baseline data. Without ground data it was challenging to separate vegetation classes (e.g. forest types, agriculture, etc.).
- In the National Forest Inventory (NFI), biomass data were not available for all land cover classes. Accordingly, average biomass was used for forest class and zero for other land cover classes for which biomass data were not available in the NFI.

Findings and Recommendations

LAND TENURE AND ADMINISTRATION

Introduction

Most land in Mozambique is held under customary tenure. The customary tenure system is formal and is recognized and protected by the constitution and the 1997 Land Act (No. 19/97), hereafter referred to as the Land Law. The local communities hold land under perpetual Right of Use and Exploitation of Land (DUAT) by virtue of traditional occupation and, have land and natural resource management powers devolved to them by the state. The local communities do not necessarily need to register DUATs to assert their administrative authority over the land under their jurisdiction. The Land Law recognizes the customary rights of communities to their traditional territories and recognizes the land rights of communities and individuals acquired through customary systems. Further, the Land Law and subsequent amendments give the local community clear and devolved land and natural resources administration functions within their areas of jurisdiction.

Durable solutions for displacement-affected communities highly depend on whether and how they gain secure access to land and other productive natural resources such as fisheries, forests and water. The rules that define how, under what conditions, and for how long land and other natural resources can be accessed are key to durable solutions in displacement settings, as insecure land tenure can impede communities' long-term investment in livelihoods and have the potential to trigger ongoing conflict and displacement.

The right to land in displacement settings is important as a means for IDPs to build a life with dignity with recognition, respect and support from the wider community and the government. Secure access to land, fisheries and forests supports the integration of IDPs into the local economies and social systems at the destination areas, as well as for reintegration of returnees into their areas of origin, and is key to enhancing food and nutrition security, promoting livelihoods opportunities, and fostering peaceful coexistence in rural communities.



Findings

Land availability and access

Although in varying quantities, agricultural land is available and accessible to most land users which include IDPs, returnees and host communities, the level of access to land for agricultural purposes differs by population type. According to the findings, 97 percent of IDPs, returnees and host communities included in the study have access to land for agricultural purposes. The highest access to land was recorded for host communities (99 percent), followed by returnees (98 percent) and lastly IDPs (94 percent). This shows that relatively, there is a need to address the land needs of IDPs considering that the assessment did not cover all the IDP sites.

The assessment also found that land access by district is well above 95 percent except for the district of Metuge where those who indicated favourable access to land amount to 87 percent. Empirical evidence implies that there is pressure for land in Metuge District. This district was one of the first to receive the wave of IDPs and continues to be a destination of choice with over 141 642 IDPs registered in November 2022 (IOM/DTM, Round 17).

During the height of the crisis, between 2017 - 2022, the mass displacements placed a high demand for land in safer and more secure areas of the country, especially within Cabo Delgado and neighbouring provinces such as Nampula. Statistics on the allocation of land to IDPs are good evidence of the mass displacements that occurred between 2017-2022.

FIGURE 2 Access to land for agricultural purposes by population type

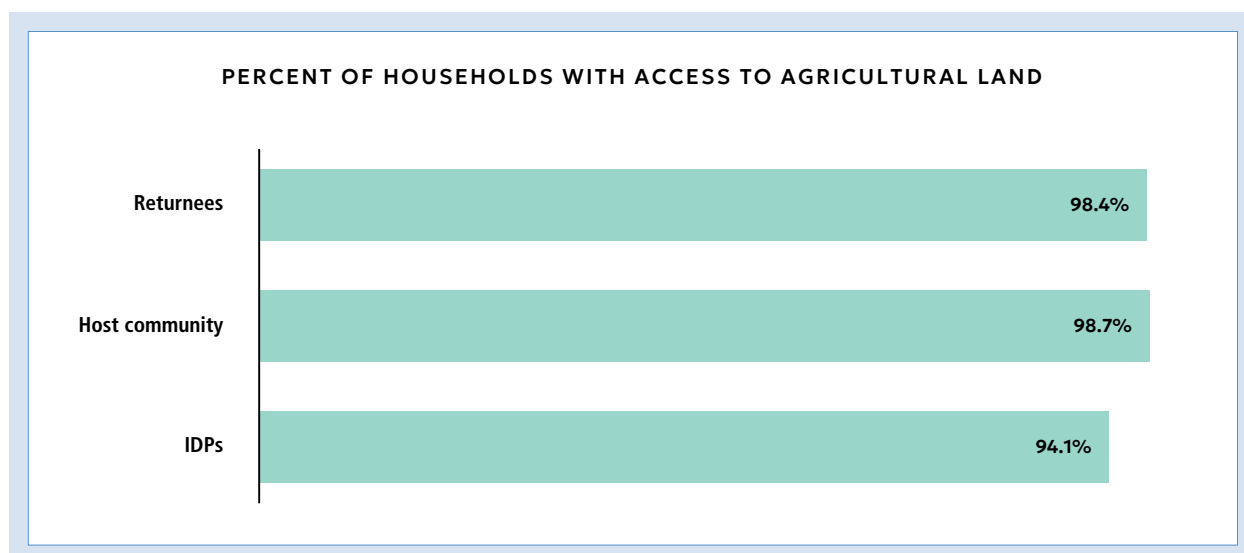
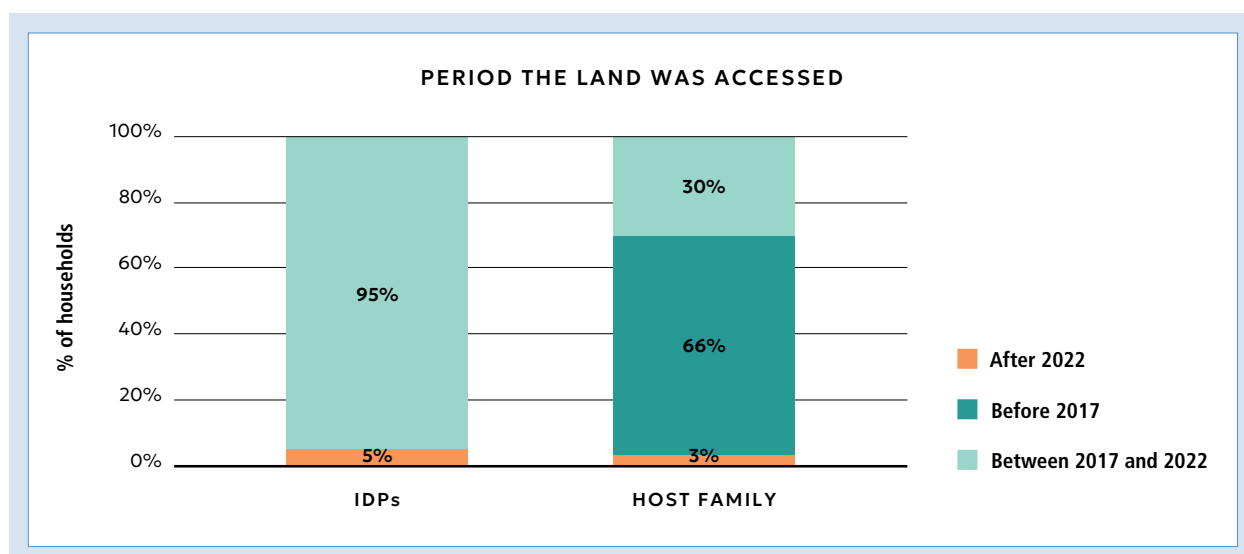


FIGURE 3 Time the land for agricultural was accessed by population type



Although the overall access to land is high, 70 percent of IDPs, 32 percent of the returnees and 26 percent of host families indicated that, due to their status, they cannot expand their *machambas* to produce crops to both satisfy their HH food security and cash generation as evidenced by interviews with IDPs in FGDs. 32 percent of returnees and 26 percent of host communities are also not able to expand their *machambas* because there is no more land in the community.

Gender in access to land

The constitution and Land Law of Mozambique promotes non-discrimination in access to land and other productive natural resources. The Land Law promotes and protects the land rights of communities, women and smallholders and provides equal rights to men and women to hold land and participate in decisions that pertain to land. Women ownership and access to land among all population types stands at 25 percent, while joint ownership of land between men and women lies at 40 percent and ownership by men is 35 percent. The gap in land ownership between women (28 percent) and men (43 percent) is much wider in IDP communities. An analysis of land access by age shows that through all the age groups women have lower access to land than men. In terms of land sizes, women generally have access to smaller sizes than men. For instance, for land of size 1.5 - 2.0 hectares, 27 percent of women have access to land against 73 percent of men. Most women (38 percent) have access to land between 0.75 - 1.0 hectare and the

lowest number of women (26 percent) have land above 2 hectares against 75 percent for men in the same land size category. Displacement situations compounded by customary and religious practices exacerbate the marginalization of women by limiting access to land or adequate land to sustain their families. However, despite the observed gap, in Mozambique, significant progress has been made in addressing gender equality in access to land, in line with the constitution, the Land Law, and international conventions such as the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security that promote gender equality in access to and control of land and other productive natural resources.

Access to land by IDPs

With regards to how land is accessed by IDPs in the destination areas, only 15 percent were allocated land for *machambas* in the production blocks by the government. Various other categories of agricultural land access through host communities such as borrowing, allocation by friends/relatives/family, inheriting, land invasions, renting and buying constituted 85 percent. The study revealed a high prevalence of land dispossession by the host communities especially for those IDPs that are accessing land for *machambas* outside the government production blocks. This means that only 15 percent of the IDPs have secure access to land by virtue of being allocated *machambas* within the government-designated production blocks.

TABLE 4 Land ownership by population type

POPULATION TYPE	WHO IS THE OWNER OF THE LAND YOU HAVE?		
	INDIVIDUALLY OWNED BY FEMALE HH MEMBER	JOINTLY OWNED BY BOTH FEMALE AND MALE	INDIVIDUALLY OWNED BY MALE HH MEMBER
IDP	28.1%	27.1%	43.4%
Host Community	29.1%	38.5%	32.4%
Returnee	18.8%	54.8%	26.2%
Average	25.3%	40.1%	34.8%

TABLE 5 Type of access to land by population type

	IDPs	RETURNEES	HOST COMMUNITY
Allocated/borrowed by family, relatives, neighbours, friend	73.5%	28.9%	23.5%
Allocated by the government/local authorities	15.4%	0%	0.7%
Bought	3.6%	5.1%	12.7%
Inherited from family	2.7%	45.2%	50.3%
Occupied without any authorization	1.6%	20.4%	12.5%
Other	0.2%	0.5%	0%
Rented	3%	0%	0.2%
Shared	0%	0%	0.2%

Access to land by Returnees

As shown in Table 5 above, regarding returnees, access to land was predominantly through inheritance from family members and allocation by family/relatives/neighbours/friends constituting 45 percent and 29 percent respectively, with no allocations of land by government or local authorities. Unauthorized occupation of land is highest among the returnees (20 percent) compared to 2 percent for IDPs and 13 percent for host communities since returnees are advised by security forces not to go to the *machambas* due to security concerns. Targeted interventions by government and humanitarian partners for enhanced access to

land for returnees are necessary to support building back better in a sustainable and equitable manner that allows land to play its central role in eradicating hunger and reducing poverty.

Access to land by Host Families

As shown in Table 5 above, regarding host community families, inheritance from family is the predominant mode of access to land constituting 50 percent with negligible 0.7 percent allocation by government/local authorities. Buying and selling of land (13 percent) is gaining prominence as a way of accessing land.



Security of Tenure

Security of tenure is the certainty that a person's land rights will be recognized by others and protected in case of infringements. People with insecure tenure face the risk that their tenure rights will be threatened by competing claims or even lost because of eviction. Perception of security of tenure differs from one district to another according to population type (IDP, host community and returnees). Except for Montepuez with a population density of 15/km² (2017 Census), the population densities of most of the districts where perception of tenure insecurity is highest are well above 45/km² (2017 Census) which has a potential for high competition for land and other resources and related conflicts. A total of 51 percent of all population types perceive that their tenure rights are secure, and they will not be dispossessed of their land in the next 5-10 years, while those who perceive that they will be dispossessed in the next 5-10 years constitute 31 percent. However, zooming into the findings reveals that the host community HHS

have the highest perception of tenure security (73 percent), followed by the returnees with a response of 67 percent, while IDPs have the least number of HHs (19 percent) who perceive that they will not be evicted from their agricultural land in the next 5-10 years.

Perception of security of tenure differs from one district to another according to population type (IDP, host community and returnees). A total of 51 percent of all land users perceive that their tenure rights are secure, and they will not be dispossessed of their land in the next 5-10 years, while those who perceive that they will be dispossessed in the next 5-10 years constitute 31 percent of all land users. However, zooming into the findings reveals that the host community HHs have the highest perception of tenure security (73 percent), followed by the returnees with a response of 67 percent, while IDPs have the least number of HHs (19 percent) who perceive that they will not be evicted from their agricultural land in the next 5-10 years.

TABLE 6 Perception of land tenure security by district

DISTRICT	ARE YOU AFRAID OF BEING EVICTED FROM AGRICULTURAL LAND?		
	MAYBE, I AM NOT SURE IF I WILL BE DISPOSSESSED IN THE NEXT 5-10 YEARS	NO, I WILL NOT BE DISPOSSESSED IN THE NEXT 5-10 YEARS	YES, I AM AFRAID THAT I WILL BE DISPOSSESSED IN THE NEXT 5-10 YEARS
Balama	20.3%	46.4%	33.3%
Chiure	13.2%	42.7%	44.1%
Erati	18.4%	52.3%	29.3%
Meconta	23.2%	38.4%	38.4%
Mecufi	24.8%	49.7%	25.5%
Metuge	13.1%	53.3%	33.6%
Mocimboa da Praia	10.2%	70.6%	19.2%
Moeda	41%	36.8%	22.2%
Montepuez	15.2%	29.8%	55%
Palma	6.3%	76.7%	17.1%
Quissanga	17.8%	66.1%	16.1%
Average	18.5%	51.2%	30.4%

Land Tenure Security – IDPs

A total of 52 percent of IDPs consider that access to agricultural land may be lost through eviction in the next 5 – 10 years with Chiure (66 percent), Metuge (75 percent) and Montepuez (78 percent), above the average (30 percent) in this category. These districts received a high influx of IDPs at the onset of the conflict in 2017 and they are hosting the highest number of IDPs – Chiure (55 786), Metuge (141 642), and Montepuez (79 429) according to the IOM/DTM, as of November 2022. The possible eviction figures are

a good indication of the pressure of land in these districts because of increased population and competition for limited natural resources. The perception of tenure insecurity has serious implications on food and nutrition security and the sustainable use of land and other natural resources since land users have no incentive to invest in the land as well as diversify crop production. This undermines the attainment of durable solutions for displaced persons who are usually dependent on secure access to land for their livelihoods.

TABLE 7 Perception of land tenure security among IDPs

DISTRICT	ARE YOU AFRAID OF BEING EVICTED FROM AGRICULTURAL LAND		
	MAYBE, I AM NOT SURE IF I WILL BE DISPOSSESSED IN THE NEXT 5-10 YEARS	NO, I WILL NOT BE DISPOSSESSED IN THE NEXT 5-10 YEARS	YES, I AM AFRAID THAT I WILL BE DISPOSSESSED IN THE NEXT 5-10 YEARS
Balama	25.3%	25.3%	49.5%
Chiure	20.5%	13.6%	65.9%
Erati	63.2%	31.6%	5.3%
Meconta	29.1%	29.1%	41.8%
Mecufi	31.5%	31.5%	37.1%
Metuge	6.4%	19.2%	74.5%
Mueda	63.3%	13.3%	23.3%
Montepuez	14.1%	8.3%	77.7%
Quissanga	0%	100%	0%
Average	28.4%	19.4%	52.2%

Land Tenure Security – Host Community

As would be expected, 73 percent of the host community HHs perceive that they will not be dispossessed of their tenure rights to land in the next 5-10 years. Only 16 percent perceive that they will be dispossessed while 11 percent are not sure whether they will lose their tenure rights to land in the next 5-10 years. 8 of the districts used in the assessment/study are above the average with Chiure (91 percent), Palma (96 percent) and Quissanga (98 percent) topping the list of perceived land tenure security by host community. Erati and Meconta host community HHs in Nampula province have the lowest perception of land tenure security of 32 percent and 34 percent respectively, expecting to lose

their land in the next 5-10 years. This finding is further corroborated by the results of interviews with the community of Lampita in the administrative post of Corrane in Meconta District who indicated that with the arrival of the IDPs government asked them to give half of their land to the displaced people and this has negatively impacted their food security. The allocation of land to IDPs deprived the host community of access to their cashew trees which are now located in the *machambas* allocated to the IDPs and they believe that they should be compensated for loss of access to this cash crop. To some extent the host community of Lampita perceive that their tenure rights are at risk.

TABLE 8 Perception of land tenure security among Host Community

DISTRICT	ARE YOU AFRAID OF BEING EVICTED FROM AGRICULTURAL LAND?		
	MAYBE, I AM NOT SURE IF I WILL BE DISPOSSESSED IN THE NEXT 5-10 YEARS	NO, I WILL NOT BE DISPOSSESSED IN THE NEXT 5-10 YEARS	YES, I AM AFRAID THAT I WILL BE DISPOSSESSED IN THE NEXT 5-10 YEARS
Balama	12.9%	77.4%	9.7%
Chiure	0%	91.3%	8.8%
Erati	12.9%	54.8%	32.3%
Meconta	15.3%	50.9%	33.9%
Mecufi	14.3%	78.6%	7.1%
Metuge	17.3%	74.7%	8%
M. da Praia	21.1%	68.4%	10.5%
Moeda	3.7%	75.9%	20.4%
Montepuez	18.4%	81.6%	0%
Palma	0%	95.8%	4.2%
Quissanga	2.1%	97.9%	0%
Average	10.9%	73.4%	15.7%

Land Tenure Security - Returnees

Tenure security is even more critical for returnees who, depending on how protracted the conflict is, may lose access to their customary lands due to several reasons including illegal occupations by other localised IDPs, counterclaims and recurrence of the conflict. 67 percent of returnees perceive that their tenure rights are secure, and they will not

be evicted from their agricultural lands in the next 5-10 years, while 20 percent are afraid, they will lose their tenure rights through eviction in the same period. This figure correlates with those returnees who, upon return to their places of origin, could not recover their agricultural lands for various reasons.

TABLE 9 Perception of land tenure security among returnees

DISTRICT	ARE YOU AFRAID OF BEING EVICTED FROM AGRICULTURAL LAND?		
	MAYBE, I AM NOT SURE IF I WILL BE DISPOSSESSED IN THE NEXT 5-10 YEARS	NO, I WILL NOT BE DISPOSSESSED IN THE NEXT 5-10 YEARS	YES, I AM AFRAID THAT I WILL BE DISPOSSESSED IN THE NEXT 5-10 YEARS
M. da Praia	8.9%	70.9%	20.3%
Palma	7.2%	73.7%	19.1%
Quissanga	23.8%	54%	22.2%
Average	12.6%	67%	20.4%

As shown in Table 10, an average of 24 percent of the returnees indicated that they could not access their lands upon return to their places of origin. The qualitative interviews with returnees and government officials in the areas of return found out that insecurity, conflict and fear of violence were the predominant factors limiting access to original lands for most of the returnees in Mocimboa da Praia, Palma and Quissanga. Returnees who could not access their original land reported that their land was located far from the villages, where NSAG were still present. On the contrary, returnees who could access their lands were generally close to the villages and the roads, the only secure areas due to the presence of military forces.

Reasons for limited access to original lands are supported by findings from FGDs which indicated that the residents are still traumatised by the violence that they experienced and are in fear for their lives. As evidenced by testimony from the returnees in Palma and Mocimboa da Praia, the government advised them not to go far from their houses due to security concerns and they had to either borrow machambas from other people or engage in other businesses as an alternative. When asked why he could not access his machambas one returnee said – “I couldn’t, so I borrowed a machamba because when we arrived the government said we shouldn’t go too far, we should make machamba near the houses.”

Addressing tenure security and access to agricultural land by the returnees is a critical issue for sustainable livelihoods and food security, and critical for the achievement of durable solutions, in this case, full return and reintegration in the areas of origin.

Interviews with various IDPs indicated that the majority would like to return to their places of origin once there is peace. It is therefore clear that the bulk of the over

1 million IDPs will require targeted support to re-establish themselves in the medium to long-term, once it is safe to return. Putting in place mechanisms to secure their productive assets such as land would be a priority towards the attainment of durable solutions. The interviews also revealed that tenure insecurity in the settlement areas could place limitations on the livelihoods, food security and self-reliance for the majority of IDPs who have not been allocated machambas in the government designated agricultural production blocks.

Recommendations

- The government should consider creating more production blocks for the allocation of machambas to enable secure access to land by all IDPs towards achieving durable solutions.
- The government should consider raising awareness of the Land Law regarding the rights of landholders and the benefits of registering DUATs, especially for host communities to safeguard their legitimate tenure rights.
- In accordance with the Policy and Strategy for the Management of Internally Displaced People (PEGDI), returnees in acquiring or reclaiming their land upon their return, resettlement or reintegration and support returnees in registration of community and individual DUATs to protect legitimate tenure rights of returnees from infringement by others.
- Strengthen the capacity of local-level customary dispute resolution institutions to protect legitimate tenure rights of returnees by facilitating restitution and resolution of land disputes in a fair, reliable, accessible and non-discriminatory manner that takes into consideration the interests of women and other vulnerable groups.

TABLE 10 Availability of original land for the returnees by district

DISTRICT	WHEN YOU RETURNED TO YOUR PLACE OF ORIGIN, DID YOU FIND YOUR LAND(S) AVAILABLE?	
	NO	YES
Mocimboa da Praia	19.6%	80.4%
Palma	23.5%	76.5%
Quissanga	30.9%	69.1%
Average	24.2%	75.8%

LAND ALLOCATION TO INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS

In Cabo Delgado and Nampula provinces, most rural land is community land which are allocated by traditional authorities for use. The customary tenure system is formal in Mozambique since it is recognized and protected by the Constitution and Land Law. The local communities hold land under perpetual DUAT by virtue of traditional occupation and, have land and natural resource management powers devolved to them by the State. The local communities do not necessarily need to register DUATs to assert their administrative authority over the land under their jurisdiction. Therefore, in line with the Land Law and in accordance with the responsible governance principles of consultation, allocation of land to other groups such as IDPs is to be done in close consultation and with the prior consent of the local communities (host communities) who are the custodian of land within their jurisdiction. The government and local authorities have so far been facilitating availability and access to land for IDPs through inclusive consultations with host communities in the identification of land for the agricultural production blocks and the settlement site.

The purpose of the consultation with host communities is to ascertain the physical characteristics of the land, the legitimate tenure rights on the land which will need to be

recognized, existing natural resources such as water and forestry resources, accessibility of the site, security of the displaced persons, and environmental considerations. The negotiations also provide a basis for establishing how the land and other resources will be accessed in a manner that promotes the coexistence of IDPs and host communities. The outcome of the negotiations including the allocation of land by the host communities is well documented as proof of consent by the local communities.

Once the negotiations have been completed, the physical demarcation of the land for the settlement site and production block will be done. The land is supposed to be mapped but this does not always happen especially in displacement situations, due to overstretched capacities of district authorities in the Directorate of Lands, Infrastructure and Territorial Planning and DPAP. The districts keep a record of IDPs and land allocations for the settlement site and *machambas* in the production blocks. The allocation of land and tracking of IDPs is facilitated by the issuance of special identity documents to IDPs.

In instances where agricultural land for production blocks is not available, the government has been negotiating with local communities to host IDPs. The host communities were also requested to allocate part of their *machambas* to the IDPs.



Findings

Land allocation

Documented processes or guidelines on land allocation were not found during the assessment. Although there are no documented standard guidelines/procedures for land allocation, 88 percent of the IDPs perceive the process of land allocation by the government or local authority to be fair.

Most of the IDPs, returnees and host communities rely on subsistence agriculture. Therefore, the quality of land is critical in ensuring sustainable livelihoods, self-reliance, and food and nutrition security. In terms of the conditions of the land allocated by the government, 71 percent of respondents consider the land to be of good quality with favourable conditions to support agricultural production. However, in some settlement sites, the IDPs indicated that the land that is available for agriculture is not fertile for the crops that they are planting such as maize.

Regarding the sizes of land allocated, the responses of IDPs differ from one district to another. The government has a policy of allocating 0.5 hectares to each displaced person in the production blocks. The findings of the assessment indicated that sizes of *machambas* held by IDPs, host communities and returnees vary between 0.25 - 2 hectares. Most HHs are farming on *machambas* that range between 0.75 - 1 hectare which is within the national average.

The study revealed the existence of a sale and rental market for agricultural land. The fact that almost 85 percent of IDPs are not catered for in the allocation of *machambas* by the government, there is an emerging market for land.

The study revealed that 3 percent of the IDPs indicated that they are renting *machambas* from host communities. However, there is some variation depending on the settlement area. For example, in Meconta District, Alua settlement, during a FGD of IDPs, 69 percent of the participants indicated that they are paying for the *machambas*. Rentals range between 500 – 1 200 meticaes per hectare per annum. The majority (50 percent) of the leases have a duration of 1 year and about 17 percent of the leases have indefinite periods. The surveys indicated that all the leases are verbal. Although verbal leases are valid at law, it is always prudent to have written contracts. The mode of rental consists of cash (86 percent) and a portion of the agricultural produce (14 percent).

In some instances, once the government officials have allocated land and left, the host community evicts the IDPs from the land. 68 percent of IDPs interviewed indicated that owners have been trying to reclaim their land after some time although they demonstrated sympathy with the IDPs when they just arrived. Such cases have also been reported in Montepuez (93 percent), Balama (91 percent), Mueda (85 percent), and Chiure (69 percent) among the highest. In some districts such as Meconta and Chiure, 36 percent and 23 percent of host community members, respectively, do not agree that IDPs should be allocated land in their areas. Often this is caused by a lack of adequate consultation with inclusive participation of the host communities to build trust and promote co-existence and ensure some guarantees to secure access to land for IDPs, as well as humanitarian aid that only focuses on IDPs. An example of this was in Meconta District where the IDPs revealed, in a FGD, that the host community attempted to evict the IDPs until they agreed to pay for the land to the owners.

TABLE 11 Land size allocated by population type

LAND SIZE (HA)	IDPS	HOST COMMUNITY	RETURNEES	AVERAGE
Between 0.25 and 0.5	27.8%	3.8%	9.6%	14.2%
Between 0.5 and 0.75	21.4%	7.4%	11.5%	13.6%
Between 0.75 and 1.0	30%	38.5%	45.4%	37.1%
Between 1 and 1.5	12.7%	22.7%	17.7%	17.7%
Between 1.5 and 2.0	3.9%	16.8%	11.5%	10.6%
Less or equal to 0.25	1.9%	0.6%	0.7%	1.1%
More than 2	2.2%	10.3%	3.7%	5.7%

Question. How long were you supposed to use the land for?

Answer. I borrowed a field in a very fertile area and because it was large, I joined with two young people, and we worked together. We planted lettuce, tomatoes, cabbage, and maize. But I was always sick because of the pigs that spoiled everything. I spoke to the head of the post and he and the department of agriculture allocated me another field, but then the owner came, a teacher from here and explained to me claiming that the government had allocated his field to me. So, I had to look for another one, but this one is no longer reliable because I had to pay a rent of one thousand meticaís a year. Then when that farm is very productive the owner always increases the rent.

Question. And so why don't you have machambas here?

Answer. The problem is the following, when the government allocated these farms, it was in the presence of the local community the head of the post, the village leader, but after the government withdrew and we started to work, the same local community members came and took the farms back claiming that they are theirs and the government won't come in. Then they threatened us with death and disease. ...then we went to them ourselves and paid to use those fields.

The requirements of IDPs arriving in large numbers exceed the capacity of host communities to accommodate them in terms of the use of land and access to other natural resources. IDPs and host communities also pursue different approaches to the use of land including the types of crops that can be planted. 41 percent of the IDPs indicated that the landlords limit the uses to which the land can be put, including the type of crops that can be planted especially long-term crops. The incompatibility in different land use approaches is a potential source of land-related tensions that can contribute to increased food insecurities among IDPs as well as conflict between communities. This is the case where the land administration system has failed to allocate IDPs *machambas* within the government production blocks.



Recommendations

- The government, in line with existing policies and legislation on land, to consider publishing and raising awareness on any existing procedures for land identification and allocation to IDPs. The development of these procedures should be done in a consultative manner that includes IDPs and host communities ensuring that both men, women and youth are involved, and its dissemination should be in local languages through community radios and drama taking into consideration the low literacy levels i.e. 70 percent of displacement affected communities did not complete primary education.
- Land allocation by the government in the production blocks should be coupled with the provision of extension services to support the production of various crops according to the preferences of the displacement-affected communities taking into consideration their backgrounds, gender and age.
- Government to put in place monitoring mechanisms, to safeguard the tenure rights of IDPs by ensuring that they are not evicted from land that has been allocated to them. This may require a deeper engagement of the host communities and their leaders and the establishment of effective dispute resolution mechanisms accessible to both IDPs and aggrieved host communities.

MAPPING OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION BLOCKS

The mapping of the production blocks and the *machambas* is critical in achieving food security and sustainable livelihoods. To enhance integrated management of land and other resources within the local community, mapping of the production blocks should be supported by a broader consultative and participatory local land use planning process. The land use plan should incorporate existing customary land uses, IDP settlement sites and production blocks, as well as commonage, ensuring that the interests of the host community are protected.

Findings

KIIs revealed that the land allocated to IDPs as production blocks and *machambas* has not been mapped. Mapping of land is essential to promote effective, efficient, gender- and conflict-sensitive administration of land and other natural resources. The mapping will contribute towards secure access to land by IDPs and facilitate monitoring geospatial indicators (e.g., land cover/degradation status and changes over time).

The mapping approaches should be easily implementable at the local level taking into consideration the available technological and human capacities, and respond to local realities i.e., fit-for-purpose. As revealed through interviews with government key informants, the current capacities for mapping at the district level have been overwhelmed by the huge influx of IDPs in a short space of time and are not adequately positioned to respond to the needs of the government interventions for land use planning, land identification, mapping and allocation land for agriculture to IDPs.

Recommendations

- Government working with development partners should map the land identified for production blocks with the involvement of host communities and IDPs in an inclusive participatory manner ensuring meaningful participation of women, youth, and other vulnerable groups. Furthermore, the individual *machambas* should be mapped as a pre-requisite for allocation to provide the required level of tenure security to promote durable solutions for displaced persons and reduce land disputes.
- Government, working with humanitarian and development partners, to increase district-level human and technical capacity for land use planning and mapping to cater for areas that are identified for the establishment of IDP settlement sites and production blocks.
- Where the *machambas* have already been allocated in the production blocks, the government should consider using inclusive, age, gender, and conflict-sensitive participatory methods (e.g., participatory GIS) to map the existing plots.
- Government should establish inventories of the land (including the production block) and other natural resources within the local communities, especially those hosting IDPs, to facilitate sustainable integrated management of land and other natural resources.



RECORDING OF TENURE RIGHTS

The 1997 Land Act provides for the registration of individual and community DUATs (right of use and benefit of the land) as a means of securing tenure rights. The 1998 Land Law Regulations provide the methodology for the recording of tenure rights in rural land. However, the communities are not always fully aware of the legal provisions pertaining to land and also the benefit of recording tenure rights.

Recording tenure rights can be an effective way to recognise and safeguard those rights, as well as promote sustainable utilization of land and other natural resources. Subject to privacy rules, recording systems should allow tenure rights to land and other natural resources to be recorded, maintained and publicized. Where reliable information on land tenure rights and the associated parcels or holdings is easily available, it can be more difficult for others to dispossess the legitimate holders of the rights.

Findings

A total of 58 percent of all land users (IDPs, host community, returnees) do not have formal documentation of their rights to agricultural land. Of the 42 percent of all land users who have formal documentation, 81 percent have community documents and 19 percent have individual DUATs. Although 42 percent of land users have documented rights, only 6 percent consider their tenure rights to be secure. In terms of districts Mocimboa da Praia (71 percent), Palma (76 percent) and Quissanga (66 percent) have the highest perception of tenure security for all land users, and these are predominantly returnees. Despite the physical insecurity issues, the high perception of tenure security may be

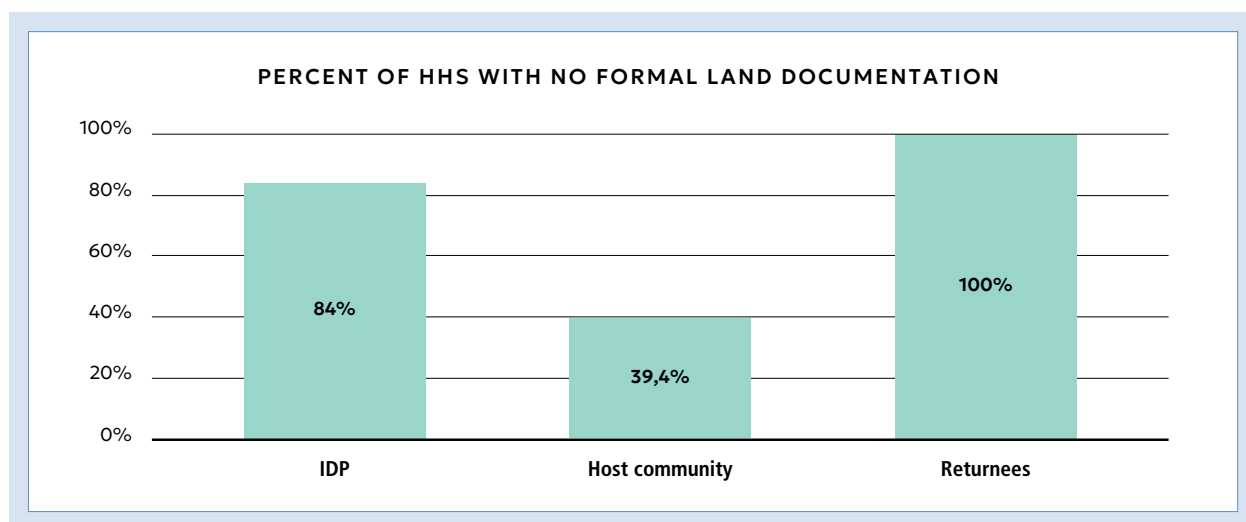
explained by the fact that the land accessed by returnees is their traditional land which they owned and used before being displaced, compared to most borrowed land from the host communities when they were IDPs, which entails very low levels of tenure security.

Only 16 percent of IDPs have some form of documentation granting them user rights to agricultural land. This figure closely correlates with the 15 percent of IDPs who have been allocated land by the government for *machambas* in the production blocks. However, only 19 percent of the IDPs consider their tenure rights to land to be secure. This low perception of tenure security is detrimental to the effective and sustainable use of land and other natural resources for the attainment of durable solutions. IDPs believe that the recording of their rights will enable them to invest more in the land to improve their HH food security and incomes. As indicated by one IDP in Chiure District, Marrupa settlement, when asked whether he thinks documentation is necessary:

“Yes, of course, it should be like that because I need this document, because when I go back home, I don’t know what can happen. I can build a farm and a house at will because I need this document ... This part can be influenced by the government, we have already had a meeting with the head of infrastructure for the issue of documents for the farms and the land...”

As would be expected, 61 percent of the host community have documented tenure right to agricultural land. This is reflected in their high perception of tenure security which stands at 73 percent while only 15 percent are afraid of losing their land in the next 5-10 years.

FIGURE 4 Percentage of HHs with no access to formal land documentation by population type



All returnees do not have documented tenure rights to land. IDPs have been returning to their homes/districts of origin in a more spontaneous manner without government support. In the absence of documentation of tenure rights, there are chances that they may find their lands occupied by others who may have taken advantage of the absence of legitimate owners. 20 percent of the returnees consider their tenure security to be insecure as they do not consider formal documentation to be critical for them to affirm their tenure rights. This was confirmed by the FGDs and KIIs.

Recommendations

- It is recommended that government considers issuing certificates (temporary user rights) of occupation and use to IDPs who have been allocated *machambas* within the production blocks. In the case of IDPs, who after the conflict is over, decide not to return to their areas of origin, the government should consider, after consulting the local communities, integrating them into the host communities and upgrading the tenure rights to individual DUATs.
- In the case of returnees, the government, working with humanitarian and development partners, should encourage returnees to apply for DUATs to safeguard their tenure rights from infringements with special consideration for women, youth, and other vulnerable groups.
- In the case of host communities, the government should continue the issuance of DUATs at both community and individual basis as the case may be. This should be accompanied by a sensitization campaign to raise awareness of the importance of the DUATs in protecting legitimate tenure rights from loss.
- Develop the necessary human and technical capacities for relevant departments (such as SDAE and SDPI) for the administration of land and other natural resources at the district level to ensure efficient response to IDP-related interventions by government and humanitarian partners.

LIVELIHOODS

Introduction

Like the rest of Mozambique, agriculture is the main source of livelihood for populations in the rural areas of Cabo Delgado and Nampula. Conflict and displacement disrupt agricultural activities, putting the livelihood of the affected communities, at risk, which undermines their food security, resilience and self-reliance. IDPs and returnees, although people with already existing knowledge and skills, may need support to resume their livelihood activities. Host communities may be also affected by increased pressure on land and the ecosystem and services. Assessing the situation of agricultural livelihoods and the related dynamics on land for the three assessed population profiles is key to designing tailored interventions that will respond to the food security and income needs of the populations and build their resilience and self-reliance.

Findings

Livelihood at place of origin

Overall, before the conflict, agriculture was the main livelihood source (close to 90 percent) for all three population profiles. Crop production dominated farming among all population profiles before the start of the conflict. The role of mixed crop and livestock production as a source of livelihood among the three population types was 11 percent.

Production and sale of staple crops accounted for the highest source of income (88 percent) before the conflict was the main source of income before the conflict. This has not changed much (86 percent) under the current situation following the start of the conflict. Humanitarian assistance was 3 percent before the conflict but has now increased to 7 percent under the current conflict environment.

This analysis indicates that agriculture remains by far the main source of livelihoods for both IDPs, host communities and returnees before and after the start of the conflict in northern Mozambique.

Livelihood at the current location

The predominant source of food and nutrition security and livelihoods across the targeted population profiles (IDPs, host communities and returnees) in the districts where the land assessment study was undertaken are agriculture (crops and livestock), fisheries, and non-agricultural (mainly trade and small businesses). Crop production is by far the most important livelihood activity in the assessed districts. Key crops produced are maize, cassava, groundnuts and sesame.

TABLE 12 Livelihood source at the place of origin for both population type

LIVELIHOOD SOURCE	IDPS	HOST COMMUNITY	RETURNEES	AVERAGE
Non-agricultural livelihood	7.1%	6.7%	16.7%	9.3%
Both crop and livestock production	14%	15%	0.6%	11%
Crop production	77.7%	78.4%	82.3%	79.1%
Livestock production	0.1%	0%	0%	0.1%
Fish captured or produced	1.3%	0%	0.4%	0.6%

Cashew and moringa are the main plantation crops produced. Livestock comprising small ruminants and poultry are widely acknowledged though their contribution as a source of livelihood is marginal. However, the level of production of each crop varies from district to district and within the resettlement areas and production blocks assessed.

Agriculture overall remains the main source of livelihood for the communities in the assessed areas, with crop production standing at 83 percent. The standing of non-agricultural livelihoods increased from 7 percent before the conflict to 19 percent now among the IDPs. Livestock production remains marginal across all three population profiles. However, fishermen indicated a negative perception towards agriculture, and many of them indicated a desire to resume their original livelihood; however, in most cases, they did not receive adequate support to adapt to the new environment, and it is also important to note that during the qualitative interviews, many of them did practice some sort of agricultural activity which complemented the fishing. It is, therefore, very important to tailor the agricultural interventions to the specific needs of the fishing communities, who may have little to no background in agriculture. Rainfed agriculture (81 percent of respondents) was the main approach to production by the three population profiles. An estimated 17 percent of respondents however also produced crops by harnessing water from various sources including rivers, lakes, streams and ponds.

The discussions with FGDs and KIIs also highlighted the inadequacy of water availability and access for agriculture and domestic use at most of the RSs. Natural water access points

(rivers, streams, ponds and dambos) were mostly only available to host communities enabling them to produce supplementary food and income generation in the off-season.

Through the qualitative data collection, IDPs and returnees indicated that the main reason for deciding to return to their home areas were the limited livelihood opportunities in the resettlement areas, coupled with the increased security situation in their areas of origin returns were partially triggered by the low levels of food production - both for consumption and selling - which was partially caused by low soil productivity in some of the areas, lack of adequate inputs and training, and the fact that land tenure security is low among IDPs who are borrowing land from the host communities and were afraid of being evicted from the land at some point. In the case of IDPs with fishing backgrounds, they reported not finding a motivation to undertake agricultural activities, due to lack of skills and sensitization. This puts in evidence that food and income insecurity, or in other words, lack of investment in agricultural livelihoods at the resettlement areas, are the main triggers for return. Overall, there have been no substantive investments by humanitarian partners in boosting agricultural livelihood opportunities in the resettlement areas, thus, displaced populations remain dependent, with very low resilience levels, which is making them think that return would be the best solution. It was also observed that IDPs who managed to secure a livelihood decided to stay in the resettlement areas. Lack of food and economic security thus is a major trigger for people deciding to return to their areas of origin. This puts people at risk of returning to areas which may still be insecure, in search of a better situation.

TABLE 13 Livelihood source at the current location for both population type

LIVELIHOOD SOURCE	IDPs	HOST COMMUNITY	RETURNEES	AVERAGE
Non-agricultural livelihood	18.6%	3.4%	14.8%	12.5%
Both crop and livestock production	2.5%	8.7%	0.4%	4.1%
Crop production	78.5%	87.8%	84.6%	83.1%
Livestock production	0.2%	0%	0%	0.1%
Fish captured or produced	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%

Sources of Income

Before the conflict, the production and sale of staple crops was by far the most important source of income for IDPs (89 percent), returnees (82 percent) and host communities (93 percent). This trend continued at the current locations for the IDPs (79 percent), host communities (96 percent) and returnees (84 percent). The contribution of humanitarian aid however increased to 15 percent among the IDPs while it was insignificant for the host communities (0.7 percent) and returnees (3 percent). There was little difference in terms of perceptions of the importance of the contributions of crops to income generation between men and women across the three population profiles. Maize production was indicated as the most important source of income across all three population profiles.

For the combined current perceptions of the three population profiles in terms of the ranked importance of crops, maize (79 percent) comes first, followed by cassava (35 percent), groundnuts (28 percent) and beans (25 percent). Maize was still ranked as the most important crop among IDPs (83 percent) and host communities (75 percent) and returnees (81 percent). Beans are ranked as the second most important crop among IDPs (32 percent) while cassava is in this place for the host communities (36 percent) and returnees (45 percent). Due to its earlier maturity duration, beans may be seen as a crop for quick rewards by IDPs, considering that IDPs period of use of land from the host communities is often limited to between 06 and 12 months in a year.

CURRENT MAIN CROP ARE YOU PLANTING OR HAVE PLANTED - IDP	PERCENT
Maize	82.81
Beans	5.23
Groundnut/peanut	3.89
Cassava	3.44
Rice	1.79
Sorghum	1.2
Sesame	0.75

CURRENT MAIN CROP ARE YOU PLANTING OR HAVE PLANTED - HC	PERCENT
Maize	74.56
Cassava	8.24
Groundnut/peanut	7.21
Rice	4.26
Sorghum	2.35
Beans	1.62
Sesame	1.03

CURRENT MAIN CROP ARE YOU PLANTING OR HAVE PLANTED - RETURNEES	PERCENT
Maize	80.73
Cassava	7.57
Sorghum	3.44
Rice	2.06
Beans	1.83
Groundnut/peanut	1.38
Cashew Nut	1.15
Sesame	1.15



Food security

Across the three population profiles, only 68 percent indicated that the food they produced was enough to meet their HH needs. However, only 41 percent also indicated that they produced enough to sell. This implies that current production levels are not enough to meet HH food needs for a considerable proportion of the population. The majority (59 percent) across the three population groups do not produce a surplus that could be sold for income generation. Food assistance is irregular and IDPs indicated that at times they have been forced to wash seed and then eat or sell it. By implication, this means that the current level of production capacity by HHs through their own means, as well as with emergency relief assistance, namely food assistance, is still inadequate to provide a serious impact that will address the shortfall in food security and as a source of livelihood. Climatic shocks (droughts, prolonged dry spells and floods), poor soils and lack of access to yield-enhancing inputs.

Disaggregating by population type, 63 percent of IDPs reported that they have enough food to eat, as opposed to the 83 percent of the host community counterparts who reported producing enough to eat. Returnees, on the other hand, presented the least ability to eat what they produce, with only 55 percent of respondents saying they produce enough to eat. In terms of the ability to sell agricultural produce, only 23 percent of IDPs reported that they were able to sell; 57 percent of host communities reported that they were able to sell; and 35 percent of returnees reported that they produced enough to sell.

Given that most of the three community profiles do have access to secure land even with specific contexts, other production limiting factors play an important role in the observed areas. Based on the FGDs and KIIs, these include access to appropriate productivity and production-enhancing technologies, especially appropriate varieties, quality seeds, fertilizers, soil fertility-enhancing cropping systems and other soil amendments as needed.

The main crops produced in the districts targeted by the study were maize, pigeon pea, groundnuts and cassava. Sesame was abundant in Balama, common beans in Quissanga, cashew nuts in Erati, sweet potato and pumpkins in Corrane district. Fishing is another important livelihood source, especially considering that some IDPs come from fishing communities of Quissanga, Mocimboa da Praia, Muidumbe and Palma. However, except for the IDPs hosted in Mecufi district, other IDPs must adapt to farming

even with limited skills for crop production. Aquaculture could be vital for the IDPs coming from fishing communities and hosted in inland districts.

Other sources of livelihoods identified in this study include livestock particularly small ruminant production as a source of protein and diversification of livelihoods. In some districts (Metuge, Balama) collection and sale of bamboo is crucial for IDPs and host communities. In Corrane (Meconta district), the collection and sale of firewood was more dominant than in other districts. In almost all the districts visited, IDPs, host communities and returnees are involved in small businesses with an emphasis on fish and agriculture products trading. For the returnees it was observed that there are limited livelihoods opportunities.

Agricultural inputs were not accessible. Through qualitative interviews, respondents indicated that the inputs were not only too expensive, but those like fertilizers were only available in the towns. The districts depend on the cities of Nampula and Pemba for these. The agro-dealer network is underdeveloped and this limits availability of the fertilizers. Many of the traders had abandoned their shops due to the insecurity. The challenging road network and remoteness of the resettlement areas act as a disincentive to agro-input suppliers.

Except from Balama, Corrane (Meconta), most soils are of poor fertility especially the new areas opened for the IDPs in the production blocks. This limits the crops that can be grown viably by the communities. Tailored diversified production that promotes crops that are adaptable to soil type would be a useful approach.

Water access for agriculture purposes was another limiting factor as many IDPs and host communities depend on rain for crop production. Food production through gardening and smallholder irrigation would increase the opportunities for supplementary food production and income generation for all three population types. For this to happen there must be investment in community water for agriculture interventions. These include the construction of community earth dams, weir dams and the drilling of boreholes.

From the above-mentioned complex of limiting factors and existing conditions in the field, a diversified approach that recognizes the limitations of some agricultural-based livelihoods need to compliment agricultural interventions depending on context should be promoted.



The use of cash assistance for the IDPs, returnees and host communities would enable them to meet their basic needs. They would also be empowered to make decisions on the best livelihoods to invest in based on the situation on the ground. There are wide opportunities that can be harnessed to support the communities to resume their livelihoods. These include support to start small businesses, small-scale irrigation facilities, seeds production, improve access for sweet potato veins, scale-up training on (GAP including husbandry and animal health, livestock production, agro-processing (i.e. maize milling), etc. This would allow IDPs and returnees to build their self-reliance and resilience, building the basis for achieving durable solutions, which include local integration for IDPs, and successful return and reintegration for returnees.

Market situation

The respondents (96 percent) overall indicated that they were able to sell what they produced. The majority of respondents (73 percent) also indicated that there is currently a gap in the stock availability of the produce they would

like to buy from the markets while some (60 percent) also felt that the prices were too high for these commodities. Maize (44 percent) followed by sesame (15 percent) and groundnuts (12 percent) were seen to offer the best market opportunities among the three population profiles. These outcomes highlight the gap in the availability of agricultural produce in the markets. It also points to the existing high potential for increasing production to meet local demand and to contribute to food and nutrition security and livelihoods of IDPs, host communities, returnees and the public in the assessed districts.

There were also differences in perceptions proportions in terms of which crops had the best market potential between men and women. The highest potential was seen in the score for maize by women (50 percent) and 41 percent for men. This was followed by sesame at 16 percent men and 12 percent women. Groundnuts was the third at 13 percent men and 12 percent women. Another important crop in this regard was rice at 9 percent for women and 8 percent for men.

TABLE 14 Agricultural products with the greatest market share

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE	PERCENTAGE
Maize	44.1
Sesame	14.6
Groundnut/peanut	12.3
Rice	8.5
Beans	7.3
Cassava	5.4
Cashew Nut	3.6

BASED ON YOUR KNOWLEDGE, WHAT AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE THAT HAS POTENTIAL TO SELL?	WHAT IS THE GENDER OF THE HH HEAD?		
	FEMALE	MALE	TOTAL
Beans	60	94	154
	8.11	6.84	7.28
Bell pepper	0	1	1
	0	0.07	0.05
Cabbage	1	3	4
	0.14	0.22	0.19
Carrots	0	1	1
	0	0.07	0.05
Cashew Nut	10	66	76
	1.35	4.8	3.59
Cassava	30	84	114
	4.05	6.11	5.39
Cauliflower	1	1	2
	0.14	0.07	0.09
Cotton	1	0	1
	0.14	0	0.05
Don't know	10	11	21
	1.35	0.8	0.99
Groundnut/peanut	86	175	261
	11.62	12.73	12.34
Lettuce	0	3	3
	0	0.22	0.14
Maize	369	563	932
	49.86	40.95	44.07
Okra	0	1	1
	0	0.07	0.05
Onions	1	0	1
	0.14	0	0.05
Pumpkin	0	1	1
	0	0.07	0.05
Rice	69	111	180
	9.32	8.07	8.51
Sesame	92	216	308
	12.43	15.71	14.56
Sorghum	2	10	12
	0.27	0.73	0.57
Soybeans	3	8	11
	0.41	0.58	0.52
Sugarcane	0	5	5
	0	0.36	0.24
Sunflower	0	2	2
	0	0.15	0.09
Sweet Potatoes	3	1	4
	0.41	0.07	0.19
Tomatoes	2	18	20
	0.27	1.31	0.95
Total	740	1375	2115
	100	100	100

Despite this general outlook, markets for agricultural produce were challenging for some IDPs RSs such as in Mecufi, Mueda and Mucopasa. This is due to the long distance to markets and challenges in the transportation of produce.

TABLE 15 Barriers to accessing a market

BARRIERS	PERCENTAGE
Lack means of transportation	50.6
No ability to pay for transport	41.4
No market	19.5
Other barriers	0.1

Recommendations for building self-reliance and resilient livelihoods for IDPs, returnees and host communities

Government, humanitarian and development partners should:

- Facilitating access to social protection and insurance through producer organizations could help with further improving self-reliance and resilience.
- Support the scaling up of agricultural livelihood interventions, as well as other related options (such as fisheries and apiculture), given that most of the IDPs, host communities and returnees are already familiar with agriculture (maize, cassava, pearl millet and beans etc.) as the main source of livelihood.
- Increase support to the production of short-cycle crops (low-input annuals such as sweet potato, sesame, millets, sorghum, legumes) for IDPs, especially those whose access to land is for relatively short periods. Host communities and returnees may be supported to diversify their production as part of resilience building including high-demand main staple maize, cassava and tree crops such as moringa and cashew nuts.

- Include short to medium-term humanitarian assistance accompanied by re-equipment of the returnees with agricultural inputs and fishing gear, as well as capacity building to improve livelihoods and increase resilience.
- Consider the capacity needs of those IDPs with a non-agricultural background in designing agricultural interventions to ensure that return is not undertaken due to a lack of livelihood opportunities.
- Implement complementary innovative approaches; access to high-quality seed of improved varieties of crops through a systems approach (strengthened seed quality assurance and seed access), strengthening systems for access to fertilizers and other agro-inputs (agro-dealerships), provision of appropriate tillage machinery and equipment, boreholes for smallholder community solar irrigation for seed multiplication and supplementary food production.
- Build capacity in communities' value chains of non-agricultural sources of livelihood (e.g. apiculture, fisheries and aquaculture) as an adaptation measure to the growing role of this aspect as evidenced by its growth among the returnees. Options such as apiculture can increase their income. Training, as well as provision of bee rearing and processing equipment, will be required.
- Ecosystem protection and restoration around IDPs and host communities RSs: create awareness and develop/strengthen guidelines on ecosystem protection, restoration and management.
- Establish rainwater harvesting, and boreholes, accompanied by the use of renewable solar energy. This could be used for nurseries and seed production, ecosystem restoration, and as a means for increasing the viability of agricultural livelihoods to ensure resilience and self-reliance of the affected communities.



COEXISTENCE

Introduction

When displaced populations arrive in a new area, local dynamics may be disrupted. Differences in customs, language, and religion, as well as competition over access to natural resources, such as water, land and forest products, and services, such as schools, hospitals and local markets. This can be a source of tensions and potential disputes and conflict between communities. Additionally, when humanitarian interventions are not sensitive to the displacement context and local dynamics, they can also trigger disputes. Understanding the local context and social dynamics is key for identifying existing and potential sources of tensions to avoid creating new or exacerbating existing ones.

Tensions may arise when there is an influx of IDPs to a new area, but also when IDPs return to their areas of origin. The context of northern Mozambique is not an exception. While it was known that some friction between communities existed, it was not clear what the sources of tensions could be.

Findings

Despite the existence of tensions among the communities, 88 percent of respondents reported that there were no tensions between groups. During the qualitative interviews, many respondents highlighted that they have made friends in the community and jointly do leisure activities.

Other positive aspects include, for instance, the feeling from host communities that the arrival of IDPs brought development to their community in terms of infrastructure; at the same time, other host community members stated that thanks to the IDPs, more humanitarian assistance was being brought to them. As stated by a host community member in Mecufi, Cabo Delgado, when asked about the changes they felt in the community before and after the arrival of the IDPs:

“I see that since they arrived many things have changed, before we received no support, now we receive even more, now we already receive agricultural inputs, hoes, maize. A long time ago we sowed in any manner but now we are taught the best way, we sow in line, and this is a good change.”

And in Meconta, in Nampula:

“Many things have changed with the arrival of the IDPs, we now have energy, we have received seeds, hoes and many good things.”

Also in Meconta:

“The firewood is less because the trusty sticks are finished, we have a lot of water now, we had one borehole and now we have three.”

“Yes I see many advantages now, we have water tanks, we use the companies’ tanks to drink water and now that the IDPs have arrived we already have two tanks and we never used to argue about water. The schools were small and now they have increased.”

However, while both communities, hosts and IDPs, reported that at the beginning, relationships between them were fine, the assessment identified the following as sources of tensions:

Humanitarian assistance

Across all the areas where the study took place, it was reported that, despite the initial sense of solidarity and welcoming from the host communities, the first source of tension between communities was the fact that at the onset of the displacement, humanitarian partners distributed assistance to IDPs alone, but not to host communities. It should be remembered that even before the conflict, host communities also faced many existing vulnerabilities. This made host communities feel left behind despite their solidarity, which, simultaneously, caused resentment, and triggered other negative actions from the hosts towards the IDPs, mainly, taking the borrowed land back. Although the government through the Agriculture Working Group (AWG) co-led by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and FAO, took action to solve this issue and implemented the condition of systematically distributing assistance to both IDPs and host communities in a 60 percent:40 percent ratio respectively. As was stated from a government official in the district of Montepuez:

“(…) the host communities, they feel injustice, because they receive the IDPs, they give them land, they give them space for housing, but the partners when they come, they just look for the IDPs and they forget about the host communities.…”

Infrastructure set up by humanitarian and development actors, such as water infrastructure, has also been reported as a source of tension between the communities. For example, in Chiure and Balama, host communities reported that the displaced populations would not let them use the well that humanitarian partners had established in the RSs. It is important to point out that this source of tension, however, falls under both humanitarian assistance and access to natural resources, particularly water.

Natural resources

Another major source of tensions observed in the IDP hosting districts is around the management, ownership and use of natural resources, most notably, around **land, water and forest resources**. As was indicated under the Land Tenure section, most IDPs are borrowing land from the host communities through informal arrangements; facing cases of being dispossessed from the land they were using when they received one-sided humanitarian assistance. This created serious tensions between both communities, and frustration from the side of the IDPs, which has other very negative consequences on their livelihood, food, and income security, and thus, on their resilience and self-reliance. This was clearly stated, for example, by an IDP in Mecufi:

“(...) when I ask for a machamba, I am not given one because I receive (humanitarian) support”.

IDPs can do little to nothing to avoid being evicted from the land they borrowed, as there is a lack of any formalized agreement for those borrowing. Local conflict resolution mechanisms, mostly involving the community leaders, do not usually solve the issue, as in the absence of a formal agreement, and fair and impartial dispute resolution mechanism, the owner of the land can take it back at any time.

Regarding water, issues were also reported due to the scarcity of this basic and valuable resource. Water infrastructure as well as natural sources are scarce, and communities argue over access to it, which is compounded by the effects of the drought that the districts visited are facing. In Mueda, a host community reported the following:

“For me the water crisis has increased with the arrival of the displaced people, and we women have many activities, such as fetching firewood, housework... it is difficult to look for water.”

A similar situation was reported in Mecufi by an IDP, who stated that, however, relationships are not too bad, the fact that they only had one borehole in their community sometimes caused tensions over its use.

As stated above, women face very serious protection issues, including sexual exploitation, when they undertake the arduous task of collecting natural resources, especially firewood and water. As an example, a case was reported in Mueda by an IDP, where she was explained that she was extorted by a host community member

who threatened to sexually abuse her if she wanted her bucket back when she was trying to collect water from a stream. This is just an example, and not an isolated case, and such cases are not only related to water. IDP women are more vulnerable to such kind of violence due to their condition of being a woman and displaced. Securing safe access to safe energy and water prevents protection and gender-based violence issues against women and girls. At the same time, other initiatives to prevent GBV violence should be put in place, such as male role model activities, aiming at prevention by sensitizing male community members, an approach that has proven successful in other contexts.

Firewood, on the other hand, was also mentioned as an issue for example, in Montepuez, host communities reported that they must go further to collect firewood since the IDPs arrived in the areas:

“We don’t have water near here, we have to go far to fetch water, it is difficult to collect firewood, now we have to go further because where we collect firewood we give it to the IDPs.”

This issue also came up clearly in the RSs of Nampula province. Forest resources should not be disregarded as they will become scarcer over time, causing irreparable damage to the environment, and increasing competition, as indicated in the geospatial analysis whereby people must travel longer distances now to collect firewood than before the conflict started.

Overall negative perceptions and prejudices:

Negative perceptions, including prejudices, have been commonly reported in all the districts where the study took place. These seem to be a product of or have increased due to, the competition over humanitarian assistance as well as natural resources. Divisions based on customary and cultural differences were also reported. For example, in Chiure, a host community member reported the following:

“IDPs don’t have any respect for the local structure, we don’t understand each other well.”

The quantitative data collection confirmed the findings from the qualitative data collection. As we can observe below, a large proportion of respondents who experienced disputes were over humanitarian assistance and natural resources.

TABLE 16 Types of disputes experienced between IDPs and host communities

TYPES OF DISPUTES	PERCENT
Over natural resources	51.4
Criminal activity	2.8
Armed conflict or fighting	2.8
Over assistance from NGOs/UN	47.4
Other	7.1
No dispute	9.9

Of the types of disputes, 51 percent among the IDPs and host communities reported natural resources. Land allocation and access constituted 91 percent of these natural resources-related disputes, followed by access and use of water points (38 percent) of the respondents.

TABLE 17 Disputes related to natural resources

TYPE OF DISPUTES	PERCENT
Land allocation and access conflicts	90.9
Access and use of water points	37.9
Access and use of grazing land	3
Access and use of forestry resources	5.3

Regarding the disputes around land, 80 percent of IDPs reported that the issue is that the owners are trying to reclaim it after some time; however, only 27 percent of host communities reported that as the main issue. At the same time, the main reason for host communities to take their land back was the humanitarian support, as reported by 93 percent of IDPs and 70 percent from the host communities.

In the case of returnees, less than 1 percent indicated the existence of any case of tension with the IDPs.

Conflict resolution mechanisms

IDPs, host communities and returnees reported that disputes were solved at the community level through community-based mechanisms. About 73 percent of respondents reported that disputes were solved through the mediation of community-based authorities, and 19 percent reported that they were solved at the community level itself.

Of the land allocation and access-related disputes 68 percent are related to owners trying to reclaim their land from the IDPs after some time. According to the head of the IDP in Chiure District, Marrupa RS:

“When someone is evicted from the land we sit down to talk. We call the village chief (HC) and tell him. But the village chief doesn’t feel that someone has been kicked off the land. He tells us to return the field to the owner. ...the chief doesn’t sit down with the people to talk because his heart is with his community.

Some of the IDPs lost land that had been secured through government negotiations with the host communities. Host communities take advantage of the vulnerability of the IDPs to extort money. As evidenced by one male IDP from Meconta district when asked why he did not have *machambas*:

“... when the government allocated these farms, it was in the presence of the locals, the head of the post, and the village leader, but after the government withdrew and we started to work, the same locals came and took the farms back claiming that they are theirs and the government won’t come in. Then they threatened us with death and disease. So, we didn’t let them and then we went to them ourselves and paid to use those fields”.

Therefore, there is a need to ensure that no one is discriminated against when it concerns access to land and other productive natural resources.



Recommendations

The government, humanitarian and development partners should aim at identifying ways to minimise, avoid, prevent and address tensions and conflicts between communities. Local peace is a condition to achieve durable solutions, and lack of it can trigger more displacement. The following recommendations for government and relevant stakeholders to prevent disputes and improve relationships are proposed:

- Adoption of conflict-sensitive approaches, and analysis of forced displacement dynamics analysis at the local level, to achieve a clear understanding of the displacement dynamics, impacts on agriculture, livelihoods, food security, and access to services and natural resources at the local level, as well as understanding the status of relationships, and overall, potential conflict drivers between host and displaced populations.
- Adoption of inclusive, participatory targeting in all their interventions involving local leaders, IDP, host community and returnee leaders including strengthening the capacities of customary dispute resolution institutions, community structures and local leaders to enhance their capacity to deal with land disputes.
- Promotion of joint activities for IDPs, returnees and host communities such as joint livelihoods activities, joint decision-making processes, rehabilitation projects, joint capacity building and other initiatives, including discussion platforms will help build trust among them, and bring a shared sense of ownership. Improved relationships contribute towards achieving durable solutions.
- Consider establishing Multi-Stakeholder Platforms for land governance, where IDPs, returnees, host communities, their respective customary leaders, and relevant government stakeholders can meet, creating a sustainable working group that finds common solutions to tenure-related problems, based on the pre-existing committees formed at the onset of the displacement.
- Awareness raising and sensitization of male host, IDP and returnee community members, advocating for the rights of women and girls, encouraging the reporting of abuses, to promote the reduction of violence against girls and women, through initiatives such as Male Role Model activities.



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HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

Introduction

Humanitarian assistance is critical to address acute food insecurity and save lives, in contexts of protracted internal displacement, these interventions are not enough and do not contribute to the achievement of durable solutions. Direct food aid interventions are designed to be short in time and not perpetuated in the long run, as they should be combined with resilience-building interventions for long-lasting impact. *IDPs' lives may not be at risk, but their basic rights and essential economic, social, and psychological needs remain unfulfilled after years in exile* (UNHCR). Inadequate and inappropriate interventions, not tailored to the specific reality, needs and skills of the populations affected by displacement, may perpetuate this situation. Contributing to local peace is also a necessary step. Therefore, there is a need for partners to link immediate relief to long-lasting recovery; in other words, to lay the foundations for durable solutions to internal displacement.

Findings

Internally Displaced People:

- **Food assistance:** Despite the protracted nature of the displacement situation of most of the IDPs - two years on average, which is beyond the initial emergency situation – a proportion of IDPs are still relying on immediate, food aid. This means that their levels of resilience and self-reliance are alarmingly low, as in most cases, IDP interviewees reported that when food assistance is delayed, they struggle to access enough food. It also means that not enough investment has been made in self-reliance and resilience-building activities. For example, in Chiure during a FGD, when asked how they were making an income, the following was reported:

“Most of us have no plan, we wait for support. Because there is no production in the field. We don't have anything to eat, we are waiting for support that doesn't arrive.”

The same situations were reported across IDP sites in Cabo Delgado and Nampula provinces, including in Balama, Montepuez, Meconta and Erati.

- **Input distribution:** Agricultural inputs, including seeds and tools, are also being widely distributed, mainly by humanitarian actors. IDPs and host communities reported this kind of assistance as preferred,

useful and positive in all instances. On the negative side, it was also reported that in some cases these were insufficient (not enough kinds of seeds and tools), distributed late – out of the planting season – of poor quality especially seeds (and therefore unable to plant them), or not fully complemented by capacity building or training on best practices. In some cases, it was reported that, since interventions were not made with prior consultation, communities were overloaded with items they did not need: For example, in Balama, a government official reported the following:

“There should be a consultation (with SDAE and IDPs, host communities and returnees) before any intervention to know the background of the people that we want to support.”

- **Input and capacity building:** On the contrary, interventions which combined the distribution of inputs (such as seeds and tools), as well as capacity development in organized groups, combining both displaced and host communities, were successful and had a very positive impact not only on the self-reliance of the participants (including economic) but also, on the relationships among communities. However successful these projects were, generally, there was a lack of continuity. For example, in Chiure, a government official reported that an initiative from an NGO partner set up a farmer group composed of IDPs and host communities, in which they grew sweet potatoes. It was a success, as they managed to also earn an income through the selling of the sweet potatoes; however, there was no continuity of the project because the communities lack quality planting material (vines).
- Other emergency assistance included **cash and voucher-based interventions**; however, vouchers were more common. Beneficiaries did not report issues with this kind of support, except for the fact that, in some cases, they had issues with exchanging vouchers for preferred items. Cash was a preferred modality of assistance, as IDPs could purchase those items that they felt were more necessary and preferred.
- Other kinds of assistance included **housing and other structures, such as schools**. This was observed in most RC visits.

Returnees

- Returnees reported that they received very limited humanitarian or development support since their arrival. For example, in Mocimboa da Praia, in Niaca community, barely any partner was present and distributing support to them, but a kilogram of seeds (beans) was not enough to resume anything.

Host Communities

- The case of host communities was different to that of IDPs. Host communities complained about the fact that they were receiving little to no humanitarian assistance. However, host communities also received support, mainly, inputs, such as seeds and tools in some of the areas visited, such as Chiure. Others also indicated that they indirectly benefited from infrastructure and development provided to IDPs in some areas, including Corrane, in Nampula.

Recommendations: What are the communities affected by forced displacement asking for?

The assessment found that IDPs and returnees lack the conducive conditions and adequate support to build back better and engage in sustainable agricultural livelihoods; therefore, their food and nutrition security, and therefore, their resilience and self-reliance are at risk. In the context of Cabo Delgado and Nampula provinces, where a very large proportion of IDPs and returnees rely on agriculture as their food and income source, supporting and boosting agriculture-based livelihoods, ensuring effective coverage of social protection systems. This will also address issues of land tenure and access to natural resources. Return should never be a consequence of a lack of livelihood opportunities and food insecurity IDPs, as this puts people at life-threatening risks. Otherwise, people may choose to return when conditions of physical security are not yet met. This highlights the importance of supporting IDPs, whether they decide to go back to their areas of origin in the future or not.

Populations affected by forced displacement, IDPs, returnees and their hosts, must have their voices and opinions heard concerning needs and preferences regarding assistance from partners.

Internally Displaced People

The data collection team visited 9 IDP hosting districts in Cabo Delgado and Nampula provinces, where the reality and needs of the affected populations naturally varied. However, the following are the major trends of requests that were received:

- **Cash assistance:** IDPs reported a preference towards cash assistance, as opposed to vouchers, as this allows them to purchase the items that they require the most.
- **Agricultural inputs:** IDPs reported that they would need a wider variety of seeds and tools, as well as fertilizers and pesticides for those areas where the soil was found to be less fertile. In terms of crops, currently, IDPs are mostly planting maize; however, there is a preference for other longer-term crops, including cashew trees and cassava (this would apply to government production blocks).
- **Timely and enough food assistance:** IDPs are still food insecure. The issues they face in food production hinder their ability to produce enough food for their HH; at the same time, they do not have the financial capacity to avail themselves of food in the local markets. Thus, many IDPs, as observed previously, rely on food assistance to meet their basic food needs.
- **Support to set up small businesses:** This was one of the most widely reported preference across all areas. IDPs want to be financially independent, and they want to engage and set up businesses. Mostly, IDPs wanted to resume business in trading, but also to scale up their agricultural production, be able to hire labour, and produce more.

Returnees

Returnee populations were in a different situation to that of IDPs. Even though most of them had access to land secured, they found most of the assets and infrastructure that was in the communities to be destroyed. At the same time, they had little support from humanitarian and development partners to restart their livelihoods. They require assistance. Their priorities are not very different from the IDPs:

- **Food assistance:** Returnees were requesting food assistance as the highest priority, mainly in Palma and Mocimboa da Praia.
- **Reconstruction of infrastructure:** some returnees found their houses and other important infrastructure very relevant to food production and livelihoods destroyed, including water points, markets and seeds reserves. Boreholes were found broken, sometimes from the effects of the conflict, sometimes due to the effects of time and lack of maintenance.

- **Agricultural inputs:** When returned, people found themselves without assets to resume production. Even though the government and FAO provided some preliminary emergency assistance, returnees were demanding more seeds, including horticultural ones, tools, including hoes and machetes, and livestock, among which chicken and goats were the most mentioned.
- **Support to set up businesses:** like IDPs, returnees had a varying background in trading and businesses, which they wish to resume; however, they lack the capital to kick-start it. These businesses included making fritters and other processed food, market stalls, etc.
- A key aspect of durable solutions is government ownership, which will ensure the continuity and success of any intervention in the medium to longer term. It is of utmost importance that development partners assist the local government in training extension staff and supporting community outreach (transport such as vehicles and motorbikes).
- There is a need to allocate inputs, including tools and seeds, such as vegetables, and fruit trees, including cashews to returnees. The fishing communities needed fishing gear and other inputs.

Government

IDP hosting districts

The government had, overall, the following recommendations for partners who want to make interventions in the areas:

- **Inclusive targeting:** all partners should target both communities when implementing an intervention, to avoid causing tensions and conflict in the communities.
- **Income-generating agricultural livelihoods:** Partners need to make sure that IDPs and their hosts produce enough to eat, but also surplus to sell and thus, meet other needs. Training of IDPs and host communities on best crop production practices would be key in this aspect. Groundnuts, cassava and sweet potatoes were mentioned as viable crops apart from horticulture.
- **Goats and poultry have food security and income-generating potential in all IDP and returnee hosting sites.** On the other hand, partners should consider aquaculture as a potential livelihood opportunity in those areas where IDPs with a fishing background reside.
- **Food preservation and processing:** other areas of intervention that the government officials highlighted include processing raw food materials. IDPs, host communities and returnees could be supported with milling facilities (hammer mills, including solar ones).

Returnee hosting districts

- In the returning sites, SDAEs are understaffed, both in office, but also for not being able to reach all the communities due to a lack of extension officers. At the same time, the conflict had hindered all efforts for them to be trained again; therefore, extension staff need re-training including the use of e-extension.

Host communities

Host communities, despite being overall more resilient and self-reliant than their IDPs, are still very vulnerable communities whose livelihood can be altered by the recent presence of IDPs. They saw access to natural resources diminished. This is in accordance with the geospatial analysis stating that forest area decrease was more within 5 km compared to 5 to 10 km from the RSs. Therefore, it is important to listen to them as they are also affected by displacement. They also requested assistance in the areas of agricultural inputs, including seeds and tools, training and income-generating activities.

Recommendations

IDPs and returnees have clear priorities:

- Actors should coordinate to deliver immediate food assistance and at the same time, provide the necessary tools and training, tailored to the local needs and backgrounds of the IDPs and returnees to rebuild the agriculture livelihoods of IDPs, host communities and returnees.
- Assist IDPs and returnees to resume their trading and business activities to support income-generating activities and the development of small agricultural enterprises within the agricultural value chains that would allow them to earn an income and be self-sufficient.
- Rebuilding infrastructure deemed key for agricultural livelihood viability including markets and community watering points for small-scale irrigation.
- Prioritization of cash assistance, to allow IDPs and returnees to choose what their most immediate needs are.

Programming Recommendations

The recommendations are premised on the findings of the assessment study and its contribution to the Government of Mozambique frameworks particularly the PSiDM, PRE-DIN and the PRDC. These frameworks are aligned and are a step towards the domestication of the African Union Kampala Convention (2009) which was ratified by the Government of Mozambique in 2019.

GOVERNMENT SUPPORTED BY HUMANITARIAN AND DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS TO:

- Invest in preferred agricultural inputs, crops, small livestock, fishing gear and equipment to ensure food, nutrition, and income security of IDPs, host communities and returnees. This should take a value chain approach. This means key stakeholders, actors and interest groups who will support the process from production to market and consumption should be identified and harnessed. Using this approach will ensure the sustainability of production.
- To put in place gender, age, and conflict-sensitive mechanisms to improve land availability and secure access by displacement-affected IDPs, returnees and host communities through documented and transparent land allocation processes, mapping areas identified for production blocks, recording of tenure rights of IDPs in production blocks and enhancing local level dispute resolution mechanisms.
- Focus on existing opportunities considering agro-ecological and socio-economic conditions of each district/resettlement scheme – cash crops, fruit trees, early maturing crops, sweet potatoes, vegetable production, community irrigation facilities anchored on renewable energy where applicable, diversification livelihoods and source of income (small livestock, and ruminants, fisheries, apiculture).
- Complement input distribution with capacity building for good agricultural practices to ensure the sustainability of the agricultural livelihoods; training to be tailored to the unique needs of IDPs and returnees, including those with no agricultural background.
- Boost peaceful coexistence through joint IDP, returnee, host community activities, including capacity building activities, through joint rehabilitation works, etc.
- Invest in comprehensive agricultural livelihoods in the displacement situation, to ensure income and food security from the beginning. This applies to both IDPs and returnees.
- Address water shortage and adapt to climate change impacts, such as drought and floods, through establishing/rehabilitating water infrastructure including for community irrigation, through, for example, cash for work activities, investing in climate-smart agriculture training, and others. This could be a joint IDP and host community activity.
- Where applicable, provide cash assistance to allow communities affected by displacement to meet the needs they deem most immediate: HH items, food, agricultural inputs, and others.
- Strengthen the existing humanitarian and development partners' coordination mechanism for more impact of interventions in emergency response.
- Support and strengthen the extension services to provide continuous support to the IDPs, host communities and returnees on good practices (agriculture, fisheries, livestock, forestry) with continuous training, and logistic support for them to continue providing technical assistance and crop monitoring.

These policy and programmatic recommendations will ensure that secure access to land and other productive natural resources contribute towards improving food security, resilience and self-reliance of the communities affected by displacement in Cabo Delgado and Nampula provinces; contribute to peaceful coexistence and lay the foundations for achieving durable solutions, whether they chose to stay in the areas of resettlement or return to their areas of origin when there is peace. Actors must ensure that IDPs do not return only because of a lack of livelihood opportunities in the resettlement areas, which may put them at risk.

Conclusion

Land is the primary asset for IDPs, host communities and returnees' livelihoods in the assessed areas. The assessment in Nampula and Cabo Delgado highlights the availability and access to land for use by the three population profiles under different complexes and contexts.

While the government has established a limited number of production blocks for IDPs, the host communities have provided most of the land. This presents both opportunities for the self-reliance of IDPs and challenges such as restricted use impositions (land lending period and types of crops that can be grown) by host communities' landowners. This limits the potential for full utilization of the land by the IDPs, an aspect that leaves them highly vulnerable to food and nutrition security and a lack of stable sources of income. To protect IDPs, and assure the security of tenure to land, the government needs to increase IDP access to land through the creation of more production blocks. Support interventions should also be tailored to consider the inherent land access challenges in the conceptual designs.

Crop production is by far the most important source of livelihood in the assessed areas. Current production levels are however not adequate to meet the food and nutrition security needs of the three assessed population profiles. Context-specific transformative interventions, tailored to the needs of each of the communities need to be scaled up to fully unleash the potential of agricultural livelihoods to ensure food security, income generation, and in short, resilience and self-reliance of the displacement-affected communities, to achieve durable solutions.

The identified IDP, host community and returnee needs in the assessed areas present complexities that require a coordinated, government-led, multi-stakeholder approach that will holistically address key challenges and offer durable solutions that should robustly seize opportunities within the favourable environment that is being created by government and HC through making land available and accessible for productive activities.

Agricultural livelihoods have the potential to contribute to addressing and preventing acute food insecurity in the short-medium to longer term, build the resilience and self-reliance of the displacement-affected communities, and lays the foundations for IDPs to integrate into the resettlement areas, if they wish to do so, and eventually thrive within their host communities. It also allows them to successfully reintegrate into their communities of origin if they decide to return home when it is safe to do so.

Integration of field and geospatial approach is important to monitor changes in key indicators that can be mapped. Results from geospatial assessment should be calibrated and validated with baseline information from the ground as much as possible. The use of easily transferrable tools for data collection, processing and dissemination should be promoted accompanied with capacity building of the government and local partners.

FAO stands ready to work with the government and other humanitarian and development partners in providing support that will result in self-reliance and durable solutions for IDPs, host communities and returnees in the assessed areas of northern Mozambique.



Land Availability, Accessibility and Use

By Internally Displaced People (IDPs), Returnees and the Host Communities
in Cabo Delgado and Nampula Provinces, Mozambique