

PROTECTION MONITORING REPORT #2

Location: Matadouro, IFP Annex and Chota

Participants: UNHCR, UNFPA and IOM

Date: 06/04/2019

BACKGROUND

The relocation exercise of 6 April, spearhead by INGC, included the relocation of 60 households moving from IFP Annex to IFP Inhamizua, and 25 households moving from Chota to IFP Inhamizua. The relocation of 50 households from Escola Primária Completa de Matadouro to San Pedro was also planned for the same day, but was put on hold on the basis that the new site was not ready to receive the population. However, it later transpired that the entire population from Matadouro (around 500 individuals) was moved to San Pedro during the evening resulting in significant overcrowding at the site. An additional relocation took place of approximately 20 individuals from Dondo to IFP Inhamizua which had not been initially planned.

POSITIVE TAKE-AWAYS

- Inter-agency coordination through the Relocation Task Force
- Multi-functional protection teams comprising of UNHCR, UNICEF, IOM and Save the children, World Vision and AVSI were present during the relocation
- Mobilisation of volunteers to assist with prevention of family separation, accompaniment and assistance to elderly, sick and persons with disabilities
- Active engagement of the directors of schools from which the population was relocated, and the director of the IFP Inhamizua, including the registration of the population at the time of relocation

KEY AREAS OF CONCERN

Preparation and coordination

- The lack of prior registration, contributed to confusion amongst the population and heightened risk of exploitation of vulnerable segments of the community. In addition, the lack of age and gender disaggregated registration and profiling of the population in terms of varying needs remains a barrier to effective protection response, including shelter allocation and assistance.
- Although the CCCM and Protection Cluster coordination was effective, the planning process was not sufficiently collaborative, whereby national agencies and the humanitarian actors were jointly engaged in the preparations and implementation of the relocation.

Protection

- The nature in which the relocation from Matadouro to San Pedro took place is of significant concern, as people were moved without proper dialog and preparation, lack of systematic allocation of tents, and overcrowding. The fact that this happened at night and with no protection monitoring presence also exposed women, children, elderly, sick, and persons with disabilities at risk of abuse and exploitation.

- Detailed relocation plans, with estimated distance between locations, transportation, site preparation, and prepositioning support services such as on-site medical response service and cooked meals were lacking.
- Communal cooking at the camp helps reduce the risk of fire hazards. However, the lack of shade (cooking is taking place in the open), organised and orderly serving, and the attempts by people from the surrounding areas also jostling to collect food results in the most vulnerable residents of the camp not receiving food.
- Child Friendly Spaces / Temporary Learning Centres has been set up at IFP, and activities are planned to commence imminently. However, programmes and educational support for adolescent girls and boys are urgently required.
- The lack of lighting at the site poses significant protection risks for the population.

Community engagement

- Consultations, survey on the intention to relocate, and community-involved planning has been limited or lacking. As a result the voluntary nature of the movement, and the needs and preferences of those affected was not confirmed prior to relocation. Furthermore, many of the resident of the camp reported they were not informed of the reasons for relocation, how it will be organized, and the duration of stay at the camp site.
- Considering the continuing tension between those being relocated and the communities in the surrounding areas, efforts to create and support dialog is found to be inadequate. **Follow up : Community engagement working group-CCCM and Protection cluster/INGC**

Documentation

- The affected population have lost most or all of their documents during the cyclone. This include identity documentation and other vital certificates. The lack of mechanisms to facilitate attainment of these lost is likely to hinder access to services, including enrolment in schools and engagement in some livelihood activities. **Follow up : Protection cluster/INGC**

Safety and security

- The population was transported using a dump track, with women and children, including adolescent girls, being forced to embark and disembark in the most undignified manner. The lack of prior briefing to the truck drivers also meant that the way in which families were transported and treated at the point of arrival was disrespectful and exposed some to the risk of injury. **Follow up: CCCM, Protection clusters/INGC**
- Besides Matodouro where the police had to be contacted to calm the agitated crowd *post facto*, the other sites also lacked security presence to ensure physical safety and crowd control at all stages of the relocation process. **Follow up: CCCM, Protection clusters/INGC**

WASH

- While latrines and water points were in place at IFP prior to relocation, these facilities were not completed by the proposed date of relocation to San Pedro.
- Showers facilities are yet to be installed. At present women reported that they collected water from the water point and were bathing inside the latrines. **Follow up: WASH cluster/INGC**

Shelter and Site Planning

- Tent at San Pedro are pitched close to each other, with stay-wires posing a potential hazard to the residents. **Follow up: Shelter/CCCM cluster and INGC**
- In both locations, it is clear that some tents are empty. Even in San Pedro which has reportedly 3 times more people than it was supposed to host, there are tents that are empty. It is not clear if it is because tents were still being allocated.
- No shaded areas are available for communal cooking.

Health

- At the time of relocation, there were no pre-positioning of health teams to deal with potential medical issues.
- People with chronic diseases, and were not provided information on how to obtain necessary treatment/drugs at the new site, thereby created uncertainty and anxiety amongst the population.
- Arrangements for on-site or mobile health services are yet to be made, although urgently required.
- The new site at San Pedro has a swamp at the middle, this increases the risk of contracting malaria and other diseases. **Follow up: CCCM cluster and INGC**

Education

- The relocation of families from sites closer to their former homes means their children will not attend school or if they do will be paying transport cost.
- Some families reported that their adolescent children were staying with their relatives in the villages of origin in order to attend secondary school. The relocation and the lack of clarity on return to places of origin therefore, inadvertently contributing to family separation.

NFI and other assistance

- Residents of the camp reported that they have lost their clothes in the cyclone, and have no extra sets of clothing for change.
- Most residents don't have mats to sleep on, lamps/torches, or mosquito nets. **Follow up: Shelter/NFI cluster**

Suggested follow up

- Advocate for increased coordination with national counterparts on the planning and execution of relocation. This includes agreement on adherence to the Relocation Guidelines and Relocation Checklist, and defining roles and responsibilities for the process. **ICCG,CCCM, Protection cluster with INGC**
- Prior information for communities on the reasons for and the process of relocation, and community-engagement in the planning of relocations. **Community engagement WG, ICCG,CCCM and Protection with INGC**
- Improved planning and coordination between clusters and the active engagement and deployment of key services such as medical responders, water, and hot-meals, prior to, during and after relocation. **ICCG,CCCM**
- Pre-positioning and distribution of NFIs at the time of arrival to assist families better cope with the new environment and living conditions.
- Community engagement in reorganising and improving the relocation site to enhance protection.