

JOINT CHILD PROTECTION MONITORING VISIT TO MANDRUZI & MUTUA

#11

Location: Mandruzi Resettlement Site, Dondo District; Mutua Resettlement Site, Dondo District.

Discussions: Women and men, girls and boys, Community leaders; INGC; FIPAG Technician;

Participants: Save the Children, UNICEF, UNHCR, OCHA

Date: 30/04/2019

Mission Objective: Monitor and identify child protection risks and needs. However, the mission also looked at the broader basic needs and protection issues.

Mandruzi Resettlement Village

Current Situation

As of Tuesday, 30 April (morning) 122 households were already at the site, of which 40 families arrived the previous night. These families were compelled to sleep in the open. 76 plots have been allocated, yet not all have been cleared due to the lack of the clearing tools and workforce.

As a result of the lack of sufficient tents most families are sharing their tents.

The population at the site is mostly composed of single women (including widows and separated women) with young children.

The majority of the population does not speak Portuguese, Sena being their main language.

The leader of the community has compiled a list of the 122 families who are presently at the site. The list consists of the names of heads of households and family size.

Protection, security and basic needs

The site is guarded by the military and police officers. 26 military and 12 police officer 3 of whom are women. More women are needed to support female protection issues. The personnel is armed and is allowed to use force in self-defence or in case of external attack (also by feral animals).

There is no lighting at the site, and as expressed by women, this raises concerns especially for girls and women adventuring to go out to release themselves.

Women and children fetch water from a private well approximately 1km from the site entrance. The land owner expressed understanding of the desperate need of the resettled population, but is worried about the impact on his farming should a drought period come, as supplying the whole resettled population with water risks depleting the well.

The four key issues/priorities stated by the population were: the lack of water, the lack toilets, the lack of shelter kits to clear the plots and the lack of NFIs like mosquito nets, sleeping mats, cooking pots and jerry cans.

Only one communal latrine has been set up for a population of 122 families.

The community leader reported that space has been earmarked at the entrance of the site for the purpose of establishing community facilities, including health posts and children's play areas.

Women express that some of their children have health issues and access to health facilities is a priority. They also mentioned that there are several elderly people who require support.

The people also stressed the need for a church.

Action

- Support to INGC to complete registration of resettling families – Protection cluster
- PSEA Training for military, police and community leaders – PSEA Working Group
- Distribution of shelter kits – Shelter cluster
- Distribution of NFIs/CRIs, including – Shelter cluster / NFI Working Group
- Community-mobilisation to support land clearing by women – CCCM cluster
- Water points close to resettlement site – WASH cluster
- Construction of latrines – WASH cluster
- Mobile health services – Health cluster

Child protection & education

The population is composed of many young children. Based on traditional practices, it is likely that the population also includes child mothers (it was not possible to assess this in depth due to the nature of the visit). Children were seen wandering at the site, clearing family plots, caring for younger children, and cooking. Menstrual hygiene needs of adolescent girls were not assessed during this visit, but can be understood as requiring urgent attention. The specific risks for girls and boys, including exploitation, when collecting firewood and fetching water requires detailed assessment.

Children are out of school, with the nearest primary and secondary schools said to be at the Macheroke village. The absorption capacity (adequate numbers of classrooms, sufficient trained teachers) of these schools to enrol children from the new Mandruzi resettlement site needs to be assessed, along with support and encouragement to families to enrol children into schools.

As an urgent measure, recreational and PSS activities for children, temporary learning spaces and targeted activities for adolescents are needed. Children express that they feel uprooted; missing their friends from their pre-cyclone location; having made new friends and established routines in the accommodation site and now being in yet a new unfamiliar environment. Recreational and PSS activities and community meeting points would ease the transition phase for children and minimise the risk of psychosocial distress reactions.

Support to women-headed households in clearing their lands will minimise the risk of children being compelled to do this hard work.

Child Friendly Space animators trained by Save the Children while the community was at the Samhora Machel Accommodation Centre will have moved to the resettlement sites as well. These volunteers will be re-identified and mobilised to support child protection activities at the resettlement site.

Action (Child protection & Education)

- Identification of appropriate site location for Child Friendly Space, and establish CFS/PSS activities – Child Protection Sub-cluster
- Community-based child protection activities targeting adolescents – Child Protection Sub-cluster
- Temporary learning spaces; education kits – Education cluster
- Support to enrol children at schools; increase absorption capacity of nearby schools – Education cluster

Mutua Resettlement Village

Current Situation

INGC reported that 137 households have been moved to the site as of Monday, 29 April. 167 plots have been demarcated, and women and men were seen clearing their lands. Not all families have been provided with tents. As a result families are currently sharing the tents that have been pitched.

Community members reported that families from low-lying areas of Punguay area will also be resettled at the site.

Families have not received shelter kits, and hence do not have adequate tools for clearing the plots. The paths have not been cleared. INGC reported that there is insufficient funds to rent a bulldozer. Families with plots close to the proposed roads are expected to clear the paths as well.

There is no lighting at the site.

Water was being provided by FIPAG from a mobile water tank. It was reported that distribution started today, and two rounds of distribution will be made each day. Women and children were observed collecting water in plastic bottles. The need for jerry cans and storage containers for each household was noted.

Action

- Support to INGC to complete registration of resettling families – Protection cluster
- Support to INGC for clearing roads at site – CCCM cluster
- PSEA Training for military, police and community leaders – PSEA Working Group
- Distribution of shelter kits – Shelter cluster
- Distribution of NFIs/CRIs, including – Shelter cluster / NFI Working Group
- Community-mobilisation to support land clearing by women – CCCM cluster
- Water points close to resettlement site – WASH cluster
- Construction of latrines – WASH cluster

- Mobile health services – Health cluster

Child protection & education

Fewer children were noticed at the Mutua site, compared to Mandruzi. During a previous visit (Sunday, 28 April) families reported that they had left their children behind with neighbours or older children while they clear their plots. The terrain in Mutua and dense foliage at Mutua is likely the explanation for this decision.

Similar to the case of Mandruzi, the absorption capacity (adequate numbers of classrooms, sufficient trained teachers) of nearby schools to enrol children from the new Mutua resettlement site needs to be assessed, along with support and encouragement to families to enrol children into schools.

As an urgent measure, recreational and PSS activities for children, temporary learning spaces and targeted activities for adolescents are needed. Children express that they feel uprooted; missing their friends from their pre-cyclone location; having made new friends and established routines in the accommodation site and now being in yet a new unfamiliar environment. Recreational and PSS activities and community meeting points would ease the transition phase for children and minimise the risk of psychosocial distress reactions.

Support to women-headed households in clearing their lands will minimise the risk of children being compelled to do this hard work.

Save the Children identified several community child protection animators trained by the organisation while the population were still staying at the Chipende accommodation centre. The animators reported that they have identified a space to establish a child friendly space. Child protection activities will commence shortly.

Action (Child protection & Education):

- Identification of appropriate site location for Child Friendly Space, and establish CFS/PSS activities – Child Protection Sub-cluster
- Community-based child protection activities targeting adolescents – Child Protection Sub-cluster
- Temporary learning spaces; education kits – Education cluster
- Support to enrol children at schools; increase absorption capacity of nearby schools – Education cluster
- Sensitizing families on the risk of physical harm to children, given the nature of the land (bush)