

## PROTECTION MONITORING REPORT #3

**Location:** Secondary School, Guara-Guara; Guara-Guara village and Buzi village

**Discussions:** Women and Girls, Men and Boys, Adolescent girls (in Secondary School, Guara-Guara)

**Participants:** UNHCR

**Date:** 09/04/2019

### General background

Six accommodations centres are opened in Guara-Guara, of which five were referred to as Transit Centres and the sixth as accommodation centre. As opposed to Guara-Guara only hit by the cyclone, the Buzi village was affected both by Cyclone as well as flash floods. The government plan is to move the displaced population from Buzi and those living in lower lands to a relocation/integration site where the demarcation is presently taking place.

According to the Director of the District, the school is hosting 779 families / 2,114 individuals, all of whom are from the Buzi village. The Director estimated that the 60% of the population is female, which is not un-similar to the demographic breakdown prior to the cyclone. No age disaggregated data is not available.

The population reported that they arrived in Guara-Guara by boat, motorcycle or on foot.

### General protection

More women and younger children were observed at the site. When queried, the ½ of the women and ½ of the men conversed with reported that they had at least one family member who is in the village of origin to 'safeguard their properties'. When asked what type of property they were safeguarding, both women and men stated that family members were remaining behind to safeguard the land. A few women stated that family members were also trying to safeguard family assets, including kitchen utensils, at which point other women in the group protested that all their assets were lost due to the cyclone and subsequent floods.

Some of the women stated that they have not seen their relatives (who are in the place of origin) for over two weeks. With little or no telephone connectivity, they are reliant on passing verbal messages through those traveling between the site and place of origin.

### Registration of population

The District Director showed the registration list prepared by the authorities. The registration is done at the household-level: name of head of family and the family size. As complete families are not present at the site, and lack of demographic breakdown, including age, gender, diversity and specific needs, poses a challenge in terms of planning and delivery of services.

*Follow-up: Protection / CCCM (continue to advocate for registration of affected population in Accommodation Centres and Relocation Sites)*

## Shelter

Tents have been pitched on the school groups, and are being used by part of the displaced people. However, a significant number is also living in the classroom, most of which do not have roofs, or with damaged roofs. It was however noted a lack of family tents in the accommodation centre as compared to the number of registered families. When asked, several HHs indicated sleeping in the open where they are exposed to all protection risks.

The National Authorities have plans to resettle families living in flooding-prone zones to plots in higher ground. Similar action has been taken in the past by the Government of Mozambique following previous emergencies. Plots are currently being demarcated in different areas close to displacement zones, such as Dondo and Buzi, including in Guara-Guara. In the latter, 150 plots of 20 x 30 metres (600 m<sup>2</sup>) were already demarcated, and work was underway for a demarcation of at least another 100 plots. The plots are expected to be cleaned by the population following an authorisation for the start of the resettlement of the families. Local and National authorities have agreed with the resettlement plans, but District authorities are yet to give its approval for start of relocation to newly demarcated plots.

*Follow-up: Shelter/CCCM (expedite shelter allocation, support to return to places of origin where these are safe); Protection (monitor access to lands, shelter needs)*

## WASH

Bottled water was being distributed at the time of visit. Women and girls stated the toilets are full and that many are using the bush. The lack of lighting at the school, in particular, near latrines exposes them to risks. Women stated that they usually went in pairs/groups at night.

Work was underway by the INGC to build 4 new latrines farther away from the Accommodation Centre, in order to improve sanitary conditions. It was reported by the INGC focal person on the ground that part of the population continues to resort to open defecation and thus there is a need for a sensitisation campaign on the importance of using available latrines to prevent the spread of diseases.

No shower areas are in place. Women reported that they went to a nearby well to wash. As the well is in an open space they feel exposed as they bathe with clothes on.

The location where the plots are being marked in Guara-Guara lack access to adequate water sources and local authorities stated that they will expect support from WASH partners to drill a borehole. The Local Administrator stated that, based on previous experience, the waterbed lays 50 to 60 metres deep. It was also noted that there is a public water box recently built in Guara-Guara which is yet to be inaugurated. The Local Administrator expects it to be functional soon and it is expected that it will

provide water for the entire population. However, there is a need to assess the capacity of the Water Box vis-à-vis the current population and the expected increase in numbers following the resettlement process.

*Follow-up: WASH Cluster (latrines and shower); Protection (lighting)*

## Food

Communal cooking is taking place at the school, and serving is organised in family groups. However, the population in at the school reported that there is no scheduled time for serving. As many of them are with young children, women are also cooking for themselves. Women reported that they went into the nearby bush to collect firewood. They travel in groups, but are afraid of snakes and harassment from the local community.



*Follow-up: Food Cluster (organise timely and orderly distribution of cooked meals); Camp Management/Protection (safe access to cooking fuel, organise cooking area to tackle potential fire hazards)*

## Health

An emergency health post was in place at the site, and the population reported that they were satisfied with the service.

## GBV

Cross-cutting issues flagged above: lack of lighting in site, women-headed households, risk of GBV and concern for dignity in relation to WASH facilities, and risks during firewood collection.

Women and girls also responded that they have received distribution of dignity kits, however some women and girls, particularly younger women and girls reported that what they have received is insufficient.

Several child mothers were amongst the displaced population. Women responded that there is no agreed age for marriage within the community, and that girls may be married after they have reached the age of 13 year.

Women are not aware of focal points to report/discuss GBV-related concerns and incidents, or referral pathways. According to the respondents, the presence of police in the centre was not perceived as extremely helpful for mitigation.



**UNHCR**

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***Follow-up: GBV Sub-cluster (work with relevant government agency to train and deploy focal points, raise awareness and safe reporting, increased intervention on prevention)***

## Child Protection

Younger children were seen at the site, whereas there were fewer adolescents. At least two children (14 and 15 year old girls) were identified as living without their parents or customary caregivers. These children reported that their parents are in the village of origin or in a neighbouring village, and that they came to the site in the hope of securing land for the family. *The names of these children are being shared with the child protection actor working in Guara-Guara for follow-up, in liaison with the national counterpart.*

Few of the adolescents at the site stated that they were upper secondary students. With schools reopening in a week, they will move to Buzi (there is only a lower secondary school in Guara-Guara), to attend school. This means these children will be separated from their mothers who will remain in Guara-Guara, while many will live with their fathers and other relatives.

Recreational and psychosocial activities are yet to be established in spite of children having experienced the distressing events of cyclone, flooding, and evacuation to Guara-Guara.

***Follow-up: Child Protection Sub-cluster (expedite child protection activities in Guara-Guara, including identification and support to children requiring psychosocial, support children living alone to enhance their safety – note traditional FTR may not be applicable in this context)***