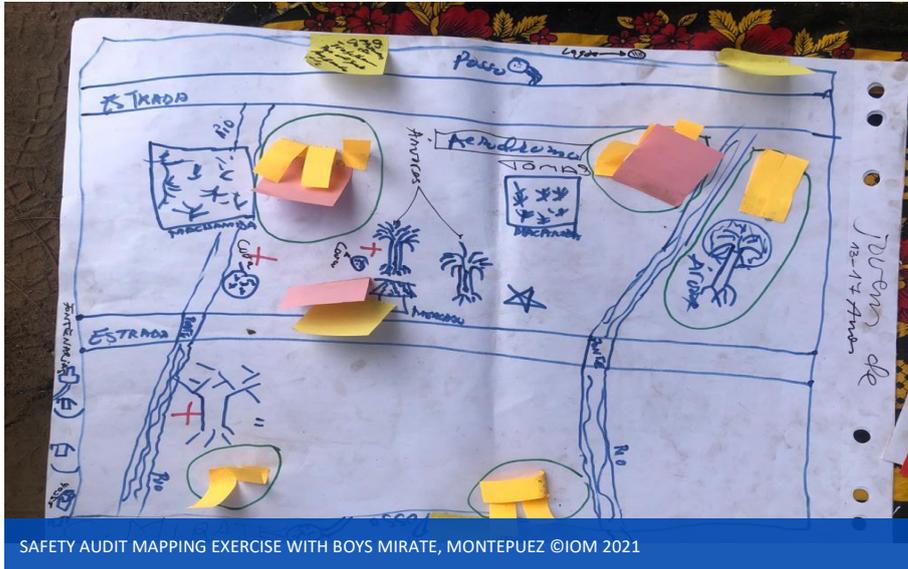


NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND SAFETY AUDIT – MIRATE, Montepuez



SAFETY AUDIT MAPPING EXERCISE WITH BOYS MIRATE, MONTEPUEZ ©IOM 2021

Displacement puts women, girls and boys at risk and vulnerable to various forms of violence, including Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in host communities and relocation sites. Safety audits inform humanitarian partners about risks and vulnerabilities and recommend mitigation measures.

IOM Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) and Protection and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (Protection/MHPSS) teams conducted one Needs Assessments and Safety Audit to internally displaced persons on 8 July 2021. A total of 40 persons participated in this exercise: 10 women, 10 men, 10 boys and 10 girls.

Mirate is a relocation site identified by the Montepuez Administration in March 2021 to host internally displaced persons (IDPs) coming from Muidumbe, Mocimboa da Praia and Quissanga. The relocation site is open since June 2021 and currently hosts 382 households (1910 individuals). The site has 10 communal latrines (5 for women and 5 for men) with no locks. There is one water pump (manual) that is functioning, one additional water point is being rehabilitated. There is tension between the IDP community and the “Chefe do Posto”, due to alleged misappropriation of humanitarian assistance. Given this, when cases of violence (including GBV and violence against children) occur the population uses the hotline “Linha Verde” and “Fala Criança”.

The findings from these safety audits were presented by IOM to the government and humanitarian partners during the CCCM and Protection Clusters in Pemba.

MAIN SAFETY CONCERNS REPORTED

Women

Women’s main security concern is the lack of lighting in Mirate. They reported seeing many men and adolescents from the host community walking around the site at night. Another major concern is the lack of access to resources and lack of participation in the management of the site. Women claim they receive reduced amounts of assistance due to misappropriation by the leaders.

Girls

Girls also point out the lack of lighting as the main security concern. They do not access the latrines at night fearing being subject to violence. They are also concerned about access to education as the nearest school is located far from the site and they fear returning home after the sunset.

Men

Men are concerned about the shelter conditions. They feel very cold at night and fear getting sick and not being able to provide for their families. Men are also preoccupied with the local leadership and the lack of involvement of the IDPs both in management and in the decision-making processes, especially regarding distributions.

Boys

The group main concern is the lack of civil documentation. They refrain from moving far the site for fearing being harassed by the police and mistaken as “insurgents”. They also expressed the need to have a safe space to play and socialize inside the site.



DEBRIS AROUND THE SITE IS A SECURITY THREAT FOR THOSE LIVING IN MIRATE ©IOM

LAYOUT AND DESIGN

There are no external lights in Mirate. The site is not properly cleared and there are many logs and holes on the floor. This is particularly concerning for children and people living with disabilities. Latrines are distant from the shelters and the lack of lighting and rough terrain to get there is a major safety threat. There are no Children or Women friendly spaces. Girls gather around the school premises or near the river. The logs and the bushes on the site are pointed out by boys and girls as a threat to their time for play.

ACCESS TO RESOURCES AND HUMANITARIAN AID

Participants claimed poor access to humanitarian aid and lack of representation of the IDP community in the decision-making process and management of the site. Women reported feeling “completely excluded” from the decision-making process and the site’s governance structures. Women claim not feeling protected nor represented by the site’s leadership. They do not participate in the meetings to cross-check the distribution lists and claim that there are many inconsistencies when the resources are distributed. Men regret not being included in the management of the site and do not feel represented by the leaders. Both women and men have expressed distrust towards the local authority and made accusations of misappropriation of humanitarian aid by the “Chefe do Posto”.

SHELTER

Shelter is available for all, and all groups consider it the safest place to be both during the day and at night. However, the participants highlighted that the shelter constructions were not suitable for the cold weather in Mirate and that they felt cold at night. Families make small fire pits to feel safer and warm at night and to scare away the wild animals living in the bush.

WASH

There is one water point functioning in Mirate since August 2021. Another water point is under construction. Access to water has been a challenge for the IDP community living in Mirate as the site hosts more than 380 families and the waiting period to collect water surpasses one hour. Sometimes women and girls prefer to collect water very early in the morning or after sunset but fear being harassed by men or attacked by wild animals. Some use traditional water wells to collect water but this water is not drinkable.

SECURITY

The debris in the site and lack of illumination are the main safety risks presented by the participants. Likewise, the bushes around the site a security risk for women and girls. There were reports of snake sighting inside the tents. Additionally, Lisaka road that passes through the site is another concern. Cars and motorbikes are frequently speeding and are a threat for children and those crossing the road.

RECOMMENDATIONS

In view of the results of the Safety Audit, the below recommendations have been put forward to the government and humanitarian partners:

- 1) Install **solar lights** near communal latrines and in the public areas;
- 2) Install additional **water point** inside the site;
- 3) **Site clearing** inside the site and on its limits.
- 4) Include **women-friendly spaces** and **child friendly spaces** in the site planning;
- 5) Installation of **protection tents** staffed with trained personnel;
- 6) Engage with **local leadership** to foster meaningful participation of IDPs in CCCM, especially women;
- 7) **Mapping of available services** for GBV and Protection response;
- 8) **Monitoring** of distributions with access to **feedback** and reporting mechanisms;