

Project Final Report for Humanitarian Measures

Contract number: 2544-03/ 2021

Project title: Addressing livelihood and WASH-related needs and strengthening the resilience of IDPs in Nampula province, Mozambique

Call reference: Humanitarian Crises in Burkina Faso and Mozambique (May 2021)

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Country/countries:	Region/locality:
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Financial statement per (euros)			
Total costs	Cleared items	Submitted for examination	Open items
1,053,000.00	0	1,052,999.99	0,01

Date, author of report: 05.10.2023, Luisa Chadreque

ADA	Austrian Development Agency
CARE	Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere
CLGRD	Comités Locais de Gestão de Riscos e Desastres (Local Disaster Risk Management Committees)
CVM	Cruz Vermelha Moçambique (Red Cross of Mozambique)
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
FSL	Food Security and Livelihoods
GBV	Gender Based Violence
HH	Household
iDE	International Development Enterprises (iDE)
IDP	Internally Displaced Persons
IGA	Income Generating Activities
INGD	Instituto Nacional de Gestão de Desastres (National Institute for Disaster Management)
MEAL	Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning
NCE	No Costed Extension
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
PDM	Post Distribution Monitoring
SDAE	District Services of Economic Activities
SDPI	District Services of Planning and Infrastructure
SDSMAS	Serviço Distrital de Saúde, Mulher e Acção Social (District Service of Women's Health and Social Action)
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WFP	World Food Program
WGFS	Women and Girl-Friendly Spaces
WUC	Water User Committee
WV	World Vision

Brief description of project progress¹ (max. 1 page)

The province of Cabo Delgado in northern Mozambique has been suffering from ongoing and sporadic armed conflict, violence and insecurity that escalated dramatically in 2021 with a well-coordinated and devastating armed attack on the northern town of Palma. Conflict related displacement combined with consecutive climatic shocks and infectious disease outbreaks have led to recurrent waves of internal displacement towards the south of Cabo Delgado and Nampula province. Thus, from October 2021 until March 2023, Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere (CARE) through Austrian Development Agency (ADA) support, implemented life-saving interventions in the sectors of Food Security and Livelihoods (FSL), Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and Protection in the district of Memba in Nampula province. The project targeted both Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), returnee families and families hosting IDPs affected by the Cabo Delgado conflict. This inclusive approach has prevented conflicts among hosting communities and IDPs, ensuring both groups were able to benefit from the project interventions.

During the implementation period, **the project benefited 3,277 households (HHs) under the FSL sector, reaching a total of 16,563 people.** Under this sector, the project conducted distribution of agricultural tools and inputs such as climate-resilient seeds, and training and mentoring in climate-resilient agricultural practices. The project also distributed "start-up kits" for non-agriculture income generating activities (IGA) such as carpentry, tailoring, small animal husbandry (goats and chicken) and fishing material and facilitated skills training for more effective family and community participation (negotiation and public speaking). Across all these activities, the CARE team conducted awareness activities about gender equality and participation of women and girls in household economic decision-making.

Under the WASH component, the project built 3 new water points, rehabilitated 7 water sources, established or revitalized 10 water committees, provided family hygiene kits and dignity kits to 1,500 families and installed 20 communal hand washing stations, each equipped with 100 bars of soap and trained 6 community mobilisers on hygiene promotion skills to facilitate dialogues on hygiene practices within the communities and the benefits of these practices for the communities, especially for women and girls. Overall, **under the WASH interventions the project reached a total of 23,691 indirect beneficiaries and 9,707 direct beneficiaries.** Under the Protection sector, the project trained 6 volunteers to identify, provide psychosocial support and refer patients to further psychological services at the hospital. **Under the Protection sector, the project reached 5,045 beneficiaries with psychosocial support, including 12 people referred to further treatment at health facilities.** Furthermore, the project rehabilitated 2 women and girl friendly space (WGFS) to provide women and girls with a safe space to seek support.

Throughout the project implementation, CARE worked in coordination with the National Institute for Disaster Management (INGD), the Provincial Agriculture, Health and Social Action Services and humanitarian partners, such as the World Food Program (WFP), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), World Vision (WV) and International Organization for Migration (IOM). This strategy allowed the project to align its interventions with the government goals and avoid any overlap of resources with other actors working in the region.

Despite the good coordination with different partners, CARE faced some challenges impacting the project implementation. The project area was affected by the tropical storm Ana and cyclone Gombe in the 1st quarter of 2022 and armed attacks in the second half of 2022 in the district of Memba, close to the border with Cabo Delgado district. Due to these emergencies, CARE requested a no-cost exemption (NCE) for the project for an additional three months ensuring all proposed activities were carried out. Thus, the project was able to implement the activities and achieve the results as described along this report.

¹ The report and any additions should be written in English. Consultation with the unit Civil Society International & Humanitarian Aid (ZGI & HUHI) is required for documents in other languages.

Detailed description of project progress

1. Project outcome achieved / discernible impact

a. Target groups reached

The project had a special focus on the vulnerable communities of IDPs and returnees seeking refuge in Nampula, as they fled the conflict in Cabo Delgado. In addition to this aspect, the project has also targeted women and girls, ensuring the interventions were not only gender sensitive but also gender transformative. Thus, in addition to prioritising this group, the project worked with whole communities providing orientation and skills training on gender aspects and female empowerment. Below are the main achievements under each output and the details on the project strategy to reach each target group.

Under the FSL sector, the project reached a total of 3,277 HHs with agriculture and non-agriculture interventions, reaching a total of 16,563 beneficiaries.

Output 1.1. 1,500 IDPs and hosting households received agricultural tools and seeds reaching a total of 7,678 individuals.

Output 1.2. 1,749 individuals received gender-sensitive training and guidance in resilient agricultural practices.

Output 1.3. 1,777 beneficiaries received vocational training, including 930 women and 847 men.

Output 1.4. 1,777 individuals organised into groups of minimum 15 each for a total of 100 groups, received livelihoods inputs for IGA, reaching a total of 8,885 individuals indirectly as part of the direct beneficiaries' HHs.²

Output 1.5. 3,526 individuals, including 1,771 women and girls received skills training for more effective participation in the family and community such as negotiation, oratory, gender, and leadership skills. These trainings were integrated into the agricultural/professional training - activities 1.2 and 1.3.

Output 1.6. 3,526 individuals (1,771 women and 1,755 men) participated in sessions on gender equality and the participation of women and girls in household economic decision-making. These sessions were integrated in the agricultural/professional training - activities 1.2 and 1.3.

Under the WASH component, the project reached a total of 23,691 indirect beneficiaries through hygiene promotion messages, including 9,707 unique direct beneficiaries.

Output 2.1. 3,000 displacement site residents were provided with access to safe water for personal and household hygiene as well as drinking and cooking through the rehabilitation of 7 water points and the construction of 3 water points.

Output 2.2. 1,500 HH have received hygiene kits type A and type B, reaching a total of 9,707 people, 4,907 men and 4,800 women with materials to maintain personal and household hygiene, including COVID-19 transmission prevention. In addition to this, it is estimated that 23,691 individuals were reached with hygiene promotion messages such as radios spots, plays on hygiene practices, lectures, and door to door visits.

Output 2.3. 10 gender-balanced Water User Committees (WUCs) are established and supported.

Output 2.4. 135 members of WUCs, including 15 community leaders have been reached with awareness raising messages on gender equality and inclusive community decision making.

² As this intervention has been provided to groups, the project has not captured the number of HH members per each participant of the group, therefore, the project has calculated the average of 5 HH members per family. $1,777 \times 5 = 8,885$.

Under the Protection sector, the project benefited 5,045 beneficiaries, as outlined below:

Output 3.1. 5,045 displacement site residents, in particular displaced women and girls, reached by PSS Peer Counsellors.

Output 3.2. 2 WGFS functioning.

Overall the project reach 16,563 unique beneficiaries and a total of 23,691 indirect beneficiaries.

As part of the Protection interventions, CARE aimed at promoting gender equality awareness and empowering female beneficiaries across all the project sectors. The project trained the beneficiaries on public speaking, negotiation and leadership focusing on decision-making. Moreover, the activities aimed to support the psychosocial well-being of the beneficiaries and their families, allowed them to know their rights and how to seek support to deal with cases of trauma or gender-based violence (GBV).

Meetings were held with small groups of IDPs to identify the main challenges they faced within the host communities and their integration into the community. These meetings also spoke about the relationship with the community leaders. This information guided the CARE team to develop the activities under this component, to ensure it targeted any challenges of IDPs and host communities.

To provide psychosocial support, 6 peer educators were selected and trained - 3 women and 3 men. They carried out home visits, organised debates on GBV and referred victims to health facilities for more specialised care. During the home visits, 12 people were referred to the health units for more personalised assistance, as they were dealing with emotional distress due to the trauma of witnessing their loved ones dying during the armed attacks. The victims referred to the health centre were all female, aged between 25 and 33.

b) Activities implemented, changes and amendments.

Under the output 1, 1,500 HH received agricultural tools and inputs, such as a hoe and an axe, as well as seeds - 10 kg of corn, 4 kg of peanuts, 3 kg of beans, 2 kg of sesame and 3 kg of sweet potatoes per family. Vegetable seeds were distributed by group of 15 to 18 members, with each receiving a kit in the second agricultural season 2022 consisting of 5 watering cans, 3 sprays to pulverise biopesticides, 1 measuring tape, a conservation agriculture guide manual and packages of seeds of 40g of cabbage, 20g of collard greens, 20g of lettuce seeds, 20g of tomato seeds and 40g of onion seeds. During the second agricultural season of 2023, the groups received kits consisting of packages seeds of 20g of fabiola cabbage, 20g tronchuda cabbage, 20g of lettuce, 20g of Roma Tomato, 20g of red creole onions, 20g of peppers, 20g of beetroot and 20g of carrot. The delivery of seeds was combined with training sessions on ecological and conservation agriculture on soil preparation and sowing techniques. The training counted with the active participation of District Services of Economic Activities (SDAE in Portuguese) representatives. CARE also provided the beneficiaries with training on the production of organic pesticides for pest management and control, and the production of fertilizer using local plants, animal excrement to ensure soil productivity.

A total of 100 small farmers' groups with about 15 members each were created. A total of 1,749 people, 908 men and 841 women, participated in the training sessions on ecological and conservation agriculture. 1,765 people took part in the training on biopesticide production, 903 men and 862 women. At the end of the training, each group was given a guide manual on conservation agriculture.

Furthermore, 1,500 HH created 100 groups with ca. 15 people in each to benefit from the business start-up kits nonrelated with agriculture activities. Each group chose an income generating activity to improve the lives of their families: 27 groups chose bread making, 20 trawler fishing, 11 deep sea fishing, 10 selling *capulanas* (local cloth), 9 catering, 6 selling dried fish, 5 sewing groups, 4 sweet and savoury cooking, 3 groups selling fresh fish, 2 carpentry groups, 1 butchery, 1 poultry and 1 small animal breeding. Each group received equipment to start their business and a certificate was signed with a list of the equipment and materials donated by the project. The investment areas were chosen by the beneficiaries themselves in consultation meetings held in the communities, some of whom practiced the same type of business in their home districts, such as fishing, bread making and tailoring.

For the distribution of the hygiene kits type A and B, the project prioritised the registration of women headed households to ensure the most vulnerable groups were reached. Furthermore, both kits ensure female items were included in the composition as per guidance of the WASH cluster. Furthermore, the project has anticipated to rehabilitate 3 water points. However, following a detailed needs assessments in the area and the high number of broken water points with minor repair needs, the project was able to rehabilitate 7 water points. CARE has also constructed 3 new water points. As Memba district has a high area with brackish water, the project drilled 12 boreholes and only 3 had the minimum acceptable safety standards for consumption. Overall, 3,000 people benefited from the rehabilitation and construction of 10 water points.

Furthermore, a total of 10 WUC have been revitalized or created with 12 members each. Each of the committees received a management and maintenance training, as well as a manual to register the beneficiaries of the sources and to facilitate their management. The project has also conducted hygiene promotion activities. 6 community mobilisers were trained, 3 male and 3 female, to promote activities on individual and collective hygiene in the communities through home visits, talks and community dialogues, with particular emphasis on the prevention of diarrhoea, cholera and COVID-19. Radio spots on hygiene practices were also broadcasted for three months, three times a day (two in Emacua and one in Portuguese) through Memba's community radio station, and theatre plays were presented in the different communities. A total of 23,691 people were reached, 11,618 men and 12,073 women.

As part of hygiene promotion activities, a total of 20 hand-washing stations were installed in markets, schools, community meeting centres and in the 2 safe spaces for women and girls the project built. A total of 2,000 bars of soap were distributed to these stations, 100 bars of soap each.

As described in the section above, the Protection interventions aimed at promoting gender equality awareness and empowering female beneficiaries to be more active on decision-making in their communities. The protection team, in coordination with the FSL sector, trained 3,526 beneficiaries on public speaking, negotiation and leadership focusing on decision-making. Furthermore, this sector focused on supporting beneficiaries with their psychosocial well-being and supporting them with information on their rights and how to seek further support to deal with traumas or GBV cases.

To provide psychosocial support, 6 peer educators were selected and trained - 3 women and 3 men to conduct home visits, debates on GBV and identify and refer to a health facility any beneficiary in need to further services. Overall, the project has reached a total of 5,045 beneficiaries with support on PSS Peer Counsellor services. During the home visits, 12 people were referred to the health units for more personalised assistance, as they were dealing with emotional distress due to the trauma of witnessing their loved ones dying during the armed attacks. The victims referred to the health centre were all female, aged between 25 and 33. Under the Protection sector, the project also rehabilitated 2 WGFS to ensure women and girls are able to safely seek support. The facilities were built in the Mazuane community and in the main town of Memba.

As described above, the activities proposed happened as planned, with small deviations. The main deviation of the project was the reduction in the number of safe spaces created from 3 to 2. Due to the state of the facilities in the district, CARE needed to re-build one of the facilities nearly from scratch, which demanded more time and budget than anticipated. Thus, the project asked ADA for a reduction of the number of infrastructures rehabilitated and 2 facilities were rehabilitated. Furthermore, the project did not acquire and distribute face masks as the COVID-19 risks had decreased and the national guidelines were not mandatory, only for suspected cases. Thus, CARE reallocated the budget to complement the purchase of the hygiene kits type A.

Due to the challenges with the cyclones Ana and Gombe that struck Mozambique in early 2022 and the armed attacks in the second half of 2022 in Memba close to the border with Cabo Delgado district, the CARE team had to be temporarily evacuated from the implementation area and some beneficiaries left to safer communities during a short period of time. These events caused delays in the project and CARE requested a no-cost extension for 3 months. This extension was approved, and CARE was able to conclude all the proposed activities.

c) Modality of assistance

This project delivered in kind assistance accompanied by trainings as other market-based modalities remain with significant challenges. The Government of Mozambique is still reluctant to authorise the use of cash transfers for humanitarian response (especially in the conflict affected areas in northern Mozambique) and extremely rural areas (such as Memba) have very weak markets unable to support such programming. CARE's long-standing relationships with trusted suppliers enabled CARE to source quality and price appropriate in-kind assistance for direct distribution to project participants. Below are the main costs of the assistance provided under the project:

Agriculture tools and Seeds: The project spent a total of EUR 25,609 for hoes and axes, while the seeds totalled EUR 82,040. This amount is for both cereal and vegetable seeds the project distributed across the various agriculture seasons and included seeds such as tomato, lettuce, beetroot, cabbage, onion, carrot and pepper, as well as maize, beans, peanuts, and sesame.

For the income generation activities IGA: A total of EUR 74,526 was spent on the purchase of the start-up kits for income generation IGA, different materials were purchased according to the business area, such as sewing machines, chicks for poultry farming, freezers for selling fresh fish and butchers, chickens and goats for livestock farming, and fishing materials.

For the hygiene and dignity kits: A total of EUR 98,111 has been spent on the hygiene kits type A and hygiene type B. Among these kits the project purchased 18,000 bars of 300g soap, 4,500 kg of powdered soap, 7,500 toothbrushes, 1,500 units of toothpaste, 1,500 bottles of 150ml, 1,500 20-liter buckets with lid and tap, 1,500 20 liter buckets with lid and 1,500 solar lanterns, 6,000 *capulanas* (local cloth), 4,500 units of reusable pads, 3,000 packages of disposable pads, 3,000 underwear for adults, 3,000 underwear for teenagers and 1,500 sets of ropes and handles for hanging clothes.

For the handwashing stations: The total cost for the handwashing stations was EUR 1,754 with the unit cost of EUR 87,70 which includes a metal frame, bucket with lid and tap. For the soap distributed with the handwash stations, the project spent a total of EUR 1,498 with the unit cost of EUR 0,75. For the hygiene promotion activities, the project spent a total of EUR 8,410 on information education and communication (IEC) material, radio spots, speakers and community activities to increase awareness on hygiene practices.

For the Water points rehabilitation and construction: The project invested a total of EUR 24,255 on the 3 water point construction, while the rehabilitation of the 7 water points added up to EUR 1,787.

Rehabilitation of WGFS: A total of 11,488 EU was spent on the rehabilitation of the WGFS, including their equipment (tables, chairs, literacy materials, drums, football equipment).

d) Participation and Accountability

Along the project implementation, the team has worked closely with the communities and the authorities. Following the launch of the project, the team organised meetings with the beneficiaries, community leaders and local authorities to present the project, its objectives, target groups, areas of intervention and the role of community leaders in the project. Furthermore, the communities have been consulted to identify the type of the seeds provided and the type of business which beneficiary would work on. These consultations guided the decision made in these areas.

To ensure transparency during distributions, the team shared information on the items and the quantity provided by the project with the communities. A toll-free line was publicised where beneficiaries could call in case of any event, and a box was placed at the distribution points for complains or opinions.

For the distribution of hygiene kits, 78 pieces of feedback were received, 8 of which were related to buckets damaged during the transport to the community. Following these complaints, the teams encouraged the beneficiaries during orientation that they should contact the team if items are damaged, ideally directly when they notice this during distribution. The remaining 70 pieces of feedback were appreciation for the assistance provided by the project.

e) Budget spending / Economy

Overall, the project expenditure finished at 100% with small variance among the budget categories. Under the Outcome 1, the project expenditure on the start-up kits for IGA had an overspent with expenditure at 113% due to the increase in the costs of the items. CARE used the savings of other lines, such as the rehabilitation and constructions of water points to balance out the deficit.

The main challenge in the budget was on the rehabilitation of the WGFS, as the cost was much more than expected due to the work required at the facilities. Thus, CARE was able to rehabilitate 2 facilities instead of 3 as agreed with ADA.

2. Risk Management

During the design of the project CARE analyzed the possible risks and put in place mitigation measures to deal with the anticipated risks and ensured a successful implementation. One of the main anticipated risks were the vulnerability of natural events in the project area, due to the geographical location of Mozambique. Throughout the project implementation, Mozambique was struck by cyclones Ana and Gombe in 2022. These emergencies caused delays in some project activities as the project team was immediately evacuated to the city of Nampula and the access roads to the communities of Lurio, Simuco, Mazuane and Namoro became impassable, affecting the normal course of agricultural activities and causing delays in training on conservation agriculture as well as the identification of water sources to be rehabilitated.

Furthermore, the security situation posed a risk although at the beginning of the project no armed attacks had been registered in Memba. During the project implementation, the district of Memba was the target of two armed attacks, the last one resulting in fatalities. This has caused temporary displacement as host families moved to other places that were slightly safer and some IDPs tried to move back to their place of origins. CARE has a Security Manager monitoring the northern region and advising the team on security measures to take, including an evacuation plan in case of increased risk. As soon as the attacks were confirmed, the team was evacuated to Nacala for 30 days and only returned following an assessment conducted by the Manager.

As the project has worked in hard-to-reach areas, the conditions of the roads posed challenges to the project, as during the rainy season roads were impassible and increased the risk of road accidents, especially for the team members using motorbikes. Thus, CARE has made available vehicles during the rainy season to the team members using motorbikes to decrease the risk of accidents.

As far as corruption is concerned, during the implementation of the project there was no record of any attempt, or any case of bribery or payment of favours linked to the staff, or any other collaborator linked to the implementation of the project.

3. Cooperation/networking with...

Local partner(s): The project counted with the involvement of community and local leaders in the project's activities. There was commitment and willingness to support the beneficiaries in living well together, since the beneficiaries are in host families and not in resettlement centres. To avoid conflicts among host communities and IDPs and the risk of community leaders trying to control the beneficiary's income made through the activities, CARE conducted several meetings within the communities and provided the different options where beneficiaries could report any problems concerning the project. Furthermore, hosting communities were also included in the project activities decreasing risks of conflicts.

Other organizations: At the beginning of the project, a meeting was held in collaboration with the district government, where all organizations operating in the district and carrying out similar activities were invited. At this meeting, the geographic areas of the district where each organization operates were clarified, to avoid overlapping actions, as well as to clarify the target audience. Another institution the project created synergies with was *Moza Banco*, during the process of training groups in agricultural and non-agricultural activities. Their services were presented to the beneficiaries so that they would know where and how they could safely keep their money.

Furthermore, in the course of implementing the project, CARE established linkages with International Development Enterprises (iDE) which had launched a similar project in the first quarter of 2022. This allowed the field technicians to better coordinate and exchange experiences and learnings.

Local authorities/ministries: At the level of the district and provincial governments, there is always good coordination and collaboration, particularly with the provincial INGD and district government through the District Services for Agriculture, Health and Infrastructure. CARE ensured they were informed of all the project activities, and they were part of several decisions such as the selection of seeds to beneficiaries and the beneficiaries selection.

4. Nexus Approach (if applicable)

At the beginning of the project, CARE was the only Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) supporting displaced people in Memba district, making the project even more relevant in addressing the needs of the affected population in the district. CARE has designed the project to allow the beneficiaries to access services under Protection, WASH and Livelihood sectors. The project recognizes these sectors are closely connected and not considering one of these sectors can lead to an incomplete or unsustainable solution.

Throughout the implementation period, a few organizations started operating in the district and CARE held different coordination meetings to ensure the interventions were complementary and resources did not overlap. With iDE, which had a similar approach to CARE, several meetings were held to ensure the teams exchanged experiences and ensured the projects worked in different communities. Furthermore, towards the end of the project both Red Cross in Mozambique (CVM) and ADPP started working in the district. CARE held meetings with them to explain the project's approach and achievements so that they could create linkages with the groups of beneficiaries from the project.

5. Cross-cutting themes (if applicable)³

Inclusion of disadvantaged groups such as children, elderly persons, persons with disabilities:

The project has targeted IDPs which are living in vulnerability. In addition to this, the project has ensured the activities benefited disadvantaged groups such as children, elderly, and people with disabilities. In the process of registering beneficiaries, 205 disabled people, 243 chronically ill people, 227 elderly people and 614 pregnant women were identified and included in the project's assistance. They are part of the households of IDPs, returnee families and host families. Among these families, 2 HH were headed by children, 185 headed by women, and 70 headed by elderly persons.

Gender Equality:

The project used a gender-sensitive approach from the very beginning. Women and girls were included in the beneficiary selection criteria, the creation of water committees, peer educators. The project encouraged the participation of women in project activities and engaged men to work side by side with women so that the women's opinions were heard, and this helped improve the lives of their families.

To achieve the desired results in terms of gender equality in the agricultural and non-agricultural groups, as well as in the water committees, the project has sensitized women through meetings in the communities where they are integrated on the importance of their active participation in the decision-making of their families and communities. These meetings also included men aiming to raise awareness on gender equality. CARE also promoted training in oratory, negotiation, and leadership (decision-making) aiming to empower women and girls of these communities.

Environmental protection and climate change:

Environmental protection was one of the focus areas of the agriculture activities. The project trained beneficiaries on techniques for conservation agriculture, the production and use of compost and organic fertilizers to protect the soil against climate change, and the introduction of drought-resistant crops such as sweet potatoes. The project also focused on the need for good water management and the use of riverbanks for food production during periods of scarce rainfall.

Disaster risk reduction:

³ Any additional information that has not been mentioned in other sections

Memba District is prone to extreme events. About six years ago, CARE implemented a project linked to Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), creating local disaster risk management committees (CLGRD). During the implementation of the project, two events affected the province of Nampula (Tropical Depression Ana and Cyclone Gombé). During this period, the project team supported the CLGRDs in mobilizing communities to fortify the roofs of their houses, look for safe places and not go out to sea for fishing activities.

COVID-19: In the context of preventing COVID-19, the project distributed 20 handwashing stations in schools, markets and in the two safe spaces for women and girls. 2,000 bars of soap were also made available. Hygiene promotion activities took place through home visits carried out by community mobilizers, messages transmitted through community radio and theatrical plays presented in the communities.

Poverty reduction: The project sought to reduce poverty through providing the beneficiaries with livelihood support. Under the food security and livelihood sector, the project promoted large-scale production in the 3 administrative posts in Memba district by introducing agricultural practices, production of organic fertilizers and pest control through the production of organic pesticides from locally available plants. Food security was also improved by promoting community seed banks, where after harvesting, part of the seeds are deposited in these banks to be used in the following season and can be distributed among the members.

Non-agricultural activities have provided the beneficiaries with a business activity to generate income which also improved the communities' economy allowing them to be economically self-reliant.

Promotion of democracy and human rights: Under the livelihood sector, the project focused on women's empowerment and gender-inclusive approaches, which better equipped the female beneficiaries to exercise their human rights including the right to economic participation and decision making. Under WASH, the project provided communities with a fundamental human right of accessing clean water, through the rehabilitation and construction of water points. Furthermore, promoting WASH practices also decreased the risks of disease outbreaks improving the right to health. Lastly, the project has provided over 5,000 individuals affected by the conflict with psychosocial support, providing them with information on their rights and where to access further support. These efforts aimed to prevent and respond to GBV, ensuring a safe environment for vulnerable groups, such as women and girls.

6. Monitoring / learning exercise

Monitoring visits were conducted by the project team regularly. The project also received a visit from CARE's Emergency Team Leader and from the Provincial Delegate of INGD accompanied by the Provincial Director of IOM. At district level, our activities received monitoring visits, particularly from members of the district government (Administrator and Permanent Secretariat, directors of SDAE, SDPI and SDSMAS). All visitors interacted with the beneficiaries, community leaders and with the field team to gather their feedback on the project.

The evaluation of the project's implementation was carried out by CARE's Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) team, which carried out two Post Distribution Monitoring (PDMs) both aimed at assessing the beneficiaries' level of satisfaction with the quality and quantity of the items distributed. At the end of the project, an external consultant was hired to carry out a post-implementation evaluation (report attached).

PDM exercises were conducted in August 2022 following the distribution of agricultural tools, vegetable seeds, sweet potato branches and hygiene kits A and B. Below is a summary of the PDM activities conducted under the project:

For the agriculture distributions, 100% of the respondents said they were satisfied with the quality and quantity of tools, seeds and sweet potato. 100% stated that the distribution of seeds and tools improved their family's living conditions to provide food. Moreover, around 99% of the beneficiaries expressed their satisfaction with the quality of the hygiene kits and stated that the dignity kit improved their menstrual management while they were able to manage the hygiene of the entire family using the kits provided.

According to the results of the last PDM carried out in June 2023, around 93% of the interviewed beneficiaries stated their family situation has improved with CARE's support – highlighting the greater availability of food, but 13% stated that humanitarian assistance had some negative impact on relationships with some neighbors or community members who did not receive assistance. CARE tried to mitigate this by including the hosting communities in the project interventions, as well as conducting meetings with the communities to explain the project activities and addressing complaints with the community members.

7. Evaluation

The project conducted a final project review, as per the attached report. Below is a summary of the main findings:

Overall, the project has improved the livelihoods and hygiene conditions of the IDPs and host families targeted. This is mainly through the strategy chosen and the types of activities conducted, such as the introduction of sweet potato cultivation, a crop that many beneficiaries had no idea how it was made, the production of organic pesticides from resources available in the community, the training on conservation agriculture techniques and the IGA activities. The project also responded to WASH needs which includes the rehabilitation or construction of water sources while also providing psychosocial assistance to the beneficiaries. Young people, women and men started to have an occupation, which has supported them to rebuild their lives and to cope with the challenges they faced because of the conflict.

The project had a great participation and support of local leaders and community members in identifying the IDPs and hosting communities. The beneficiaries adapted well to the livelihood interventions, even those in which they had never been involved (for example, certain agricultural techniques or the IGA). Please see more in the attached report.

8. Lessons learned and (if applicable) outlook for next reporting period

Below are the main lessons learned that can be considered:

- The approach of mixed groups (displaced people and residents, women, and men) proved to be successful, as it allowed good coexistence between the displaced families and the host families. Including both groups into the interventions avoided clashes among both groups and supported their integration as both worked on activities together. Due to the positive feedback, CARE has included this approach in the new ADA project that CARE will be implementing in Cabo Delgado.
- CARE made sure to always include the government representatives (SDPI and SDAE technicians - agricultural extension workers, community leaders) into the project decisions and implementation, keeping the officers informed about the project initiatives. This has shown to be extremely helpful in the local context.

- The budget allocated for some activities was insufficient due to the challenging context (accessibility of some communities, natural disasters and attacks by armed groups). This is a lesson learned that CARE has adopted for the new ADA funded project, where a buffer has been added for such unforeseen events.
- During the rainy season the team faced challenges with the road conditions in the hard-to-reach communities and the team moving in motorcycles has seen an increased risk. To decrease the risk of road accidents, the project has made available vehicles for the project team during the rainy season. This strategy should be replicated in future interventions.

9. Exit strategy and Sustainability

The project has sought to create sustainability to the communities, so the initiatives would have a lasting impact in their lives. Under the livelihood activities, the creation of community seed banks was one of the strategies to ensure the sustainability of the farming groups after the end of the project, as it will ensure the availability of seeds over the next years. Under the no-agriculture activities the project has provided the beneficiary groups with training and start-up kits so they were able to set-up businesses, becoming economically independent, following the project end. CARE also provided on-the-job training to SDAE technicians and community leaders on agriculture and conservation, business management and financial literacy to guarantee technical assistance to beneficiaries in both agriculture and non-agricultural activities. This know-how and skills will allow the communities to be self-reliant in these areas to implement and replicate these activities with other community members.

Under the WASH sector, the project prioritized the creation and training of WUC to ensure the communities are able to conduct maintenance of pumps ensuring the boreholes are functional. Furthermore, the direct involvement of SDPI technicians in the process of rehabilitation, construction, revitalization and creation of the water committees was a way for the project to guarantee the monitoring of the use of the water sources as well as ensuring their maintenance.

The distribution of the water fountain management booklets will help raise some funds to buy accessories (rubber, soles) to ensure minor repairs. During the handover of the infrastructures, CARE has also conducted meetings with the local government and documents were signed to ensure the government has the ownership and responsibility over these water points, including monitoring and maintenance of the water sources.

The mixed-group approach and awareness activities on gender equality and protection have promoted social cohesion and solidarity between host families and IDPs and therefore paved the way for continuing joint efforts of community members to further improve the situation in the communities. Furthermore, the project has created 2 WGSF that will be available for vulnerable groups to seek support. During the implementation of the project, CARE developed a strong liaison with the government authorities to ensure they were able to continue providing these services to women and girls and continue monitoring and maintaining these infrastructures.

Furthermore, as part of the project end activities, CARE held meetings with partners starting projects in the district. The aim of these coordination meetings was to ensure partners did not overlap resources and efforts and ensured the interventions implemented by this project were considered by other organizations. CARE also linked the groups created in the project to ensure new partners can continue the support.

Thus, in a combination of providing capacity building to local government and beneficiaries, as well as the tools and rehabilitation of infrastructures, CARE aimed to provide the communities with lasting interventions so they were able to have a business activity and access to basic services such as safe water and psychosocial support.

10. Visibility and public awareness raising locally and in Austria, other points

Public awareness raising and visibility activities carried out in connection with the project: please refer to Annex 5: Coms and Visibility.

Vienna, 05.10.2023

Place and date


Dr Andrea Barschdorf-Hager


Name and legally binding signature

Annexes:

- Final Logical Framework, Updated Risk Register, etc.
- Final Financial Report

- Annex 1 – Final Project Review Report
- Annex 2 – PDM Report, WASH - Hygiene Kits, August 2022
- Annex 3 – PDM Report FSL – August 2022
- Annex 4 – PDM Report – June 2023
- Annex 5 – Coms and Visibility