

UN-Private Sector Deep Dive Meeting on Education Interventions in Cabo Delgado

15th November 2023, 11:00-12:30
Virtual Meeting

Attendees:

- UNICEF, Save the Children, OCHA, MSP/TWP, Syrah Resources, ExxonMobil, Montepuez Ruby Mining

Issues discussed:

- UNICEF kicked off the presentations with an overview of the Education Cluster as follows:
 - The Education Cluster in Cabo Delgado is currently coordinated by UNICEF.
 - The cluster works as part of the humanitarian response plan with the following 3 main objectives: provision of access to education services to children, improving the quality of education by training teachers and education personnel, and capacity building of education officials and community members.
- The **Education Cluster** provided the current situation regarding the education sector in Palma and Mocimboa da Praia. The following were highlighted:
 - The results provided (number of enrolled students and teachers) are submitted by the schools in the month of March.
 - In Palma, out of 43 schools, 26 have opened while in Mocimboa da Praia 30 schools of 30 of 62 have opened.
 - Both districts have a higher male enrolment (54%) compared to female (46%).
 - It was noted that the dropout rate for males is much higher in primary school while for females it is much higher in secondary school.
 - The cluster has provided school lunches, kits (learning and teaching materials, hygiene), and accelerated learning programs (catch-up sessions for those not enrolled in classes).
 - Compared to other clusters, the Education Cluster only reports implemented activities and results at the end of each school cycle (6-12 months).
- Key education challenges faced in Palma and Mocimboa da Praia include:
 - Significant dropout rates in secondary school (early marriage and pregnancy among females and males take on the role of providing for their families).
 - Learning curve is poor; 0.5% of primary school students can read.
 - Insufficient number of secondary schools (1-2 maximum secondary schools per district often located at the district's capital) impairing students in remote areas to enroll.
 - Limited infrastructure aggravated by the conflict and natural disasters (cyclones) leading to overcrowded classrooms.
 - Lack of teaching materials for children and teachers (e.g. 1 textbook for the entire class).
 - Limited capacity among teachers and administrative staff (especially in inclusive education for children with disabilities).
- Collaboration needs/ opportunities:
 - Need to coordinate interventions.
 - Ensure that children with more vulnerability are prioritized in the support provided.
 - Keep district and provincial authorities informed.
 - Design multisector interventions that meet children's needs

- **ExxonMobil** gave an overview of its initiatives which are spread across 4 interventions with an investment total of USD730K in Palma
 - Integrated Education program – providing access to quality education for 250 community members and improving the infrastructure of 3 schools;
 - Sport for Peace - promotes peace and inclusion, covering 10k+ people in 7 communities through sports, culture, and arts.
 - Scholarship initiative - provides after-school support and personal development scholarship to 250 students from primary school, secondary school and TVET.
 - Empowering to Recovery - increases access to quality education in 3 schools via capacity building, school governance strengthening and school feeding.
- **Syrah Resources** reported the following activities:
 - USD 280k investment in construction, co-management of the Balama Professional training center which has since 2019 provided TVET training to 366 trainees.
 - USD 640k invested in the construction of 3 primary schools.

Next steps:

- Share minutes of the meeting, presentations, and contacts of the focal points of all attending organizations will be shared with the attendees – MSP Secretariat
- Link ExxonMobil's implementing partners with the WFP on school lunch program – UNICEF
- The list of schools aided in Palma will be shared with ExxonMobil - UNICEF
- A follow up conversation will be held following the meeting for further coordination on cluster reporting procedures – UNICEF, Exxon Mobil