Anadarko Mozambique Area 1, Limitada (Anadarko), co-proponent of the Mozambique Gas Development Project (the Project), is publishing a series of articles to transparently disseminate accurate information about the resettlement process associated with the development of the liquefied natural gas (LNG) park on the Kupisi peninsula in the District of Palma.

This article, the fourth in a series of nine, provides information on the manner in which consultation, dialogue and participatory planning have informed and added value to the resettlement planning process.

Dialogue and stakeholder participation

The Project recognizes that informed community participation and shared decision making are vital aspects contributing to long-term positive outcomes and the future well-being of communities impacted by physical and economic displacement. Since the start of the resettlement planning process, the Project’s resettlement team has collaborated with stakeholders, in particular with affected communities and the Government of Mozambique, to seek input and participation in all key aspects constituting resettlement planning.

Resettlement announcement

Resettlement engagement commenced following the official announcement of the resettlement planning process by the Government of Mozambique on 10 August 2013 at a Palma District Consultative Council meeting. Community meetings followed in the villages of Senga, Quitudo, Maganja and their associated production centers. During these meetings, the possible implications of resettlement were openly discussed.

Project impacts leading to displacement

To initiate discussion around physical and economic displacement, the resettlement team facilitated a series of discussions with the District Government, focusing on the Project construction phase and the associated impacts that would result in displacement and resettlement. Following these discussions, consultation was initiated at community level with the Community Resettlement Committees (CRCs) and thereafter with the affected communities. To support effective communication, care was taken to use local place names as reference points, and interactive media and maps further assisted to confirm the extent and boundaries of the affected areas.

Follow-up focus group meetings provided an overview of the issues, comments and questions raised by affected communities and other stakeholders, and provided further opportunity to discuss Project impacts leading to displacement, as well as the proposed planning process and programs that would respond to and manage the impacts.

Resettlement surveys

Prior to the start of the resettlement census and asset surveys, the resettlement team met with the District Government to discuss the survey methodology. District Government input and recommendations were incorporated into the improved methodology, and the resettlement team initiated meetings in the affected communities. The CRCs were the first stakeholders consulted at community level. The survey methodology was explained to them and the