Selecting a suitable resettlement site and designing the replacement village

Anadarko Moçambique Área 1, Limitada (Anadarko), co-proponent of the Mozambique Gas Development Project (the Project), is committed to transparently sharing accurate information about the resettlement process associated with the development of the liquefied natural gas (LNG) park on the Afungi peninsula in the District of Palma.

The next article will focus on replacement land for agricultural activities as part of affected households’ compensation and entitlement package.

Additional replacement village infrastructure, apart from what has been mentioned already, will include:

- Extension of the 33kV national electrical grid line to the replacement village, providing electricity to replacement houses and public facilities. Village street lighting will also be provided.
- Reticulated water supply (treated bore-hole water) to house plots and public facilities.
- A community center, market place and bus terminus. Government buildings (such as the police station, health center and school) and infrastructure (such as roads, water, and electricity supply) will be constructed by the Project, based on government design specifications and included in the furnishings, as recommended by the government.
- Houses for teachers, medical staff and other Government staff.
- Three places of worship, based on community preference.

The public infrastructure design was adapted based on stakeholder input. Some changes made to the public infrastructure designs include making the government administration building more accessible for disabled people and adding public ablution to the market and bus station.

Village tenure

In line with requirements set out in the Resettlement Decree and associated Ministerial Directives (Ministerial Resolution No. 156/2014 of September 19 and Ministerial Diploma 155/2014), physically resettled households’ new residential plots will be registered by the Government of Mozambique. The land on which the replacement village is located will be fishing grounds, proximity to existing community locations, proximity to Palma to allow access to services and trade opportunities, proximity to suitable agricultural land, the availability of sufficient ground water of an acceptable quality, and distance from ecologically sensitive areas. The two areas with the highest overall suitability were shortlisted as potential replacement village sites and presented to the government.

Village layout and infrastructure, as well as the house designs, were based on the requirements described in Decree No. 31 of 2012. Deliberations with relevant ministries and departments at national, provincial and district level, and consultation with resettlement-affected communities further informed and refined designs.

Village layout

After disclosure of the initial village layout to the Government of Mozambique, and following discussions with host and displaced communities, various recommendations were considered and incorporated into a final village layout design. The key features of the final replacement village layout include:

- A central precinct for public facilities, including a primary school, type II health center, government administration center, police station, market place and community center;
- A community sports pitch, located adjacent to the primary school;
- Leisure and recreation areas;
- An access road linking the replacement village to the R247 highway, as well as internal access roads to ensure that all areas of the village are easily accessible for pedestrians as well as vehicles;
- A community cemetery to the south of the village; and
- Water drainage paths.

Initially, 550 residential plots will be prepared and the required number of houses constructed for the households to be resettled. The village design includes room for approximately 200 additional residential plots to accommodate future development.

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Following government review and approval, a series of site visits and community consultations were undertaken, culminating in a voting day. Community members present at the voting day voted overwhelmingly in favor of the site closest to Quitunda. Their preference was based on the site’s proximity to land deemed more suitable for agriculture, familiarity with the potential host communities and access to alternative marine fishing areas. The potential host communities, Senga and Quitunda, were also consulted and confirmed their willingness to accept the affected communities’ choice of preferred site.

Following an inspection of the alternative sites and confirmation of the suitability of the preferred option, the Technical Commission for Monitoring and Supervision of the Resettlement Process prepared a report detailing its recommendation to the District Administrator, along with a letter providing an informed opinion about the suitability of the site.

Both the potentially displaced and host communities confirmed final agreement to Quitunda as replacement village site at public meetings held in Senga and Quitupo during August 2014.

Location

The replacement village site is located approximately 4 km south-west of Quitupo village in the south-western part of the DUAT. The site is characterized by relatively productive soils, and is close to forest resources and sources of fresh water.

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Replacement Housing Design

The replacement house will be a 3-room, 70m² house built on a plot size of 800m². The house will be constructed of cement, with plastered and painted walls. The doors and the windows of the house will be made of timber, and the roof will be a steel-sheeted, double-pitched roof. The house will contain an internal kitchen with a concrete counter as well as an external kitchen.

For more information on the resettlement process, visit www.mzlng.com