

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.

This is the seventh in a series of nine articles providing an update and information on progress made with resettlement planning activities during the past 24 months. The focus of this article is on the process to select a suitable site for the replacement village and planning the replacement village layout and house designs.

Replacement site selection

Initial studies investigated the feasibility of replacement village sites *outside the DUAT* area and identified 3 potential areas for the location of the village(s). During the resettlement announcement meetings and subsequent community engagement activities, communities communicated their preference to remain in close proximity to where they currently lived. Responding to community feedback and preference, the Project explored alternative designs for the Project facilities. This resulted in an overall reduction of the Project footprint and released areas *inside the DUAT* as potential replacement village areas. Further survey activities and analysis were undertaken. Based on a multiple criteria assessment, suitable areas for resettlement inside the DUAT were identified. Some of the primary steps in the site assessment and selection process included:

- A *constraints analysis* to identify unsuitable areas so these could immediately be excluded as potential replacement sites. 'No-go' areas included: areas with potential health and safety risks arising from proximity to LNG facility construction and operation, mangrove stands, wetlands, areas prone to flooding, areas of very high ecological sensitivity and areas where the noise levels at night would exceed the internationally acceptable level.
- After the constraints analysis, the remaining areas were *rated and ranked according to their overall suitability*. Rating criteria included: proximity to the coast and suitable 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.

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 southwestern part of the DUAT. The site is characterized by relatively productive soils, and is close to forest resources and sources of fresh water.

Village layout, village infrastructure and house design

Village layout and infrastructure, as well as the house designs, were based on the requirements described in Decree N°. 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.

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.

The plot will include a rainwater tank and gutters for rainwater collection and allow enough space for a vegetable garden and livestock shelters.

Houses will be furnished with a pre-paid-type electricity meter, fuse board and electrical wiring, as well as reticulated water supply to properties. Each house will have a latrine and washing room separate from and located at least 10 meters away from the house.

To assure the quality of housing infrastructure, the Project's contract with the replacement village construction contractor will stipulate that any construction defects detected within 12 months of completion of replacement village construction, have to be repaired.

In November 2014, the Project constructed a full-scale model of the house and invited government officials and affected communities to visit and comment on the house. Following the visit, several recommendations were incorporated and the house design updated.

Infrastructure Design

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. Prepaid meters will be installed in all houses and public buildings.
- Reticulated water supply (treated bore-hole water) to house plots and public facilities. The system will be managed, operated and maintained by the National Administration for Water and Sanitation Infrastructure (AIAS).
- 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 will include furnishings, as recommended by the government. Upon completion, the facilities will be transferred to the responsible government agencies that will take responsibility for their management, operation, maintenance and staffing. Water and electricity costs will be borne by households and government departments, upon occupation of the new houses and buildings.
- 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 N°. 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 detached from the Project's DUAT and the community will receive the right to enjoy and benefit from land (DUAT) for communal facilities. This arrangement will be detailed in community agreements.

Agriculture replacement land

In addition to the selected site where the replacement village will be constructed, the 456 households that will be physically resettled to the new village and the 751 households that will experience economic displacement impacts will also require additional agricultural land. Replacement land for agricultural activities forms part of affected households' compensation and entitlement package, the focus of the next article.

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