Monitoring the success of resettlement implementation

Anadarko Mozambique Area 1, Limiteda (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 last article in the series of nine providing an update and information on progress made with resettlement planning activities during the past 24 months. The focus of this article is on monitoring the implementation and success of the Resettlement Plan (RP).

Monitoring Objectives

In the RP, the Project makes commitments to Project-affected people regarding compensation, livelihood restoration and grievances resulting from Project resettlement activities. The objectives of monitoring resettlement are to verify that:

- Actions and commitments described in the RP are implemented fully and on time;
- Eligible affected people and entities receive their compensation entitlements in full and within agreed timeframes;
- Resettlement activities and compensation measures are effective in achieving outcomes consistent with those defined in the RP;
- Vulnerable households are receiving additional support as defined in the RP;
- Complaints lodged by Project-affected people and their hosts are addressed and that, where necessary, appropriate corrective actions are implemented;
- Regular progress reporting occurs to keep the Project Management team, Government, Project-affected people and other interested stakeholders appropriately informed about resettlement progress and issues; and
- Resettlement programs remain aligned with national legislation and lender requirements and that, where non-compliances are identified, timely and effective corrective actions are undertaken.

Another key function of resettlement monitoring is to take into account the impact of unforeseen external factors on the effectiveness of the resettlement program. Such factors may include:

- Natural disasters (e.g. droughts, flooding, crop failures, losses to wild animals);
- Macro or regional economic change (e.g. high inflation, changes in commodity prices, changes in national or international market conditions);
- Political change (e.g. change in government, changes in policy); and
- Local socio-economic change (e.g. cost of living, competition for services and natural resources, changes in the supply and demand of land, housing and labor, in-migration pressures etc.).

Monitoring is critical in identifying such changes and in response, adjusting the resettlement program in order to reach its objectives.

The Resettlement Monitoring Framework

The World Bank’s monitoring and evaluation framework has guided the development of the Project’s resettlement monitoring measures. The Project’s monitoring framework is structured around input monitoring, output monitoring and outcome evaluation.

- Input (or progress) monitoring measures whether inputs are being delivered in accordance with the schedule and as defined in the RP. Inputs are services, resources or goods that contribute to achieving outputs and ultimately, desired outcomes. Examples of input indicators are: number of staff in the resettlement team; the amount of compensation disbursed in a given month; or, amount of money spent on replacement house construction. The Project resettlement team undertakes input monitoring internally, as part of Project management reporting.

- Output (or performance) monitoring measures the direct results of inputs. Examples of output indicators include: the number of people receiving compensation for physical or economic displacement; the number of households receiving replacement housing; or, the number of people completing a livelihood training course. Output monitoring also undertaken by the Project’s resettlement team and reported both internally and externally.

- Outcome (or impact) evaluation evaluates the effectiveness of RP inputs and outputs in achieving the objectives of the RP. Outcomes are usually not immediately evident. Time must lapse before it is possible to assess whether affected households or enterprises have been able to use compensation payments for investments to produce sustainable income. Outcome evaluation is undertaken by the resettlement implementation team, the Independent Environmental and Social Consultant (IESC), and ultimately by the RP completion auditor.

Both quantitative and qualitative techniques will be used to monitor the implementation and success of the resettlement program. Quantitative indicators will be used to track inputs, outputs and outcomes against baseline conditions. Qualitative indicators will be used to gauge displaced peoples’ level of satisfaction with the resettlement program and to monitor concerns and assess perceptions about the extent to which their living standards and livelihoods have been restored.

Roles and Responsibilities

The following three parties will be responsible for monitoring resettlement:

- Project Resettlement Monitoring unit (internal);
- Technical Commission for Resettlement Monitoring and Supervision (government);
- and IESC (external, third party).

The Project Resettlement Monitoring unit will collect input and output monitoring data through:

- Day-to-day record keeping and progress reports;
- Monthly reviews of Project records and reports;
- Liaison with Project personnel, contractors, consultants and other implementing agencies to review and report progress;
- Monthly meetings with District and Provincial Government; and
- Regular monitoring of the grievance mechanism to track grievances and their resolution.

Through a detailed monitoring checklist, the Resettlement Monitoring unit will be able to track key monitoring indicators. Other monitoring-specific activities such as panel surveys, household income-expenditure surveys, household case studies, key stakeholder interviews, focus groups discussions with special interest groups, or discussions with NGOs operating in the area, will be used to collect further data, as needed. In addition, data gathered by other Project teams on local employment, local procurement, land use change and cost of living will supplement resettlement-monitoring data.

According to Mozambican law, the Technical Commission for Resettlement Monitoring and Supervision is the government agency mandated with monitoring resettlement in Mozambique. Resettlement Decree No° 31/2012 states that the Technical Commission is responsible for (1) monitoring, supervising and making methodological recommendations for the entire resettlement process; and (2) preparing monitoring and evaluation reports of the resettlement process, taking into account the previously approved plans.

Government resettlement monitoring is described further in Ministerial Resolution No° 156/2014 Technical Directive on the Resettlement Plans Preparation and Implementation Process as:

- Ensuring and verifying compliance with the goals of the resettlement and action plans;
- Assessing the level of satisfaction of the needs of the resettled persons; and
- Technically assessing and validating the information received from the plan implementation process.

Following the approval of the RP, the Project will make arrangements with the Technical Commission to discuss and facilitate Government’s resettlement monitoring activities. The IESC is a consultant, appointed by the Project lenders, to provide third party assurance that the Project is compliant with Mozambican legislation, the International Finance Corporation’s Environmental and Social Performance Standards, and the Project Environmental and Social Management Plan (which includes the RP). Throughout the construction phase of the Project, the IESC will undertake 6-monthly reviews that include discussions with displaced households, local leadership and Government. After each review, the IESC will prepare a report summarizing its findings and recommendations, which will be disclosed and available on the Project website.

Completion of the Resettlement Program

A key objective of the RP is that resettlement actions and mitigation measures should lead to sustainable restoration, and feasible improvements of affected peoples’ living standards, income levels and as compared to these measures prior to them experiencing Project displacement impacts. The resettlement process can be deemed “complete” when it can be demonstrated that affected peoples’ quality of life and livelihoods have been sustainably restored.

Livelhood restoration of affected landowners will be complete when (1) replacement agricultural land is sustainable productive; and (2) other livelihood restoration programs described in the RP have been completed. It is expected that this will be achieved approximately 36 months following physical relocation of households and after the replacement village construction workforce has been demobilized. At this time, the Project and IESC will jointly assess whether the resettlement program is ready for the resettlement completion audit. A decision will be made to either commence the completion audit or to extend the program and defer the audit for a further 12 months.

A suitably experienced, independent third party will conduct the resettlement completion audit. Once the audit has been concluded, and any arising corrective actions addressed, the resettlement program will be deemed complete. At this point, the Project will end its resettlement monitoring program.

This completes the series of articles provided by the Project to update stakeholders and share information about the resettlement process. The collection of articles can be accessed on the Project’s website www.mzlng.com.

Comments or questions about the series of resettlement articles can be emailed to resettlement@anadarko.com.