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COUNTRY UPDATE: 7 February 2024

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## Mozambique

### 1. Islamic State claims death of eight government soldiers in Metuge

Insurgent attacks continue to escalate in Cabo Delgado, and to spread southwards. The Islamic State's media released on Friday (02) a report of attacks last week in which they claim the death of eight members of the Defence and Security Forces in the district of Metuge.

In the same district, the Islamic State says it destroyed four vehicles and captured various weapons from the Defence and Security Forces. IS also claims the beheading of a civilian in the Litamanda village, in the Macomia district.

The photos below are from the Islamic State website, and claim to have been taken in the Metuge area:



<https://cartamz.com/index.php/sociedade/item/15842-estado-islamico-reivindica-morte-de-oito-soldados-governamentais-em-metuge?tmpl=component&print=1>

## 2. Insurgents cause panic in Mecufi District after occupying village for 19 hours

The village of Mecufi, in Cabo Delgado, about 20 kilometers from the city of Pemba, experienced panic from Saturday night until the end of Sunday, following information that insurgents were on their way to the district headquarters, following the occupation of the Nampwlimuity village. The situation caused the displacement of many families from Mecufi and surrounding villages to the city of Pemba.

The group explained to local villagers that their intention was to cross the Megaruma River towards the district of Chiúre. "In fact, there is panic here in the town. People are leaving towards the city of Pemba. They haven't reached the town, but they said they are on their way. When they arrived in Nampwlimuity, they didn't rape anyone. They said they were going to Chiúre and they asked that they be accompanied to the Megaruma River", said Adolfo Manuel from the Sassalane village. "They stayed all Saturday, from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm, killed a goat and ate it and then, at night, crossed the Megaruma river to the Soma village in the district of Chiúre".

Security measures were reinforced in the Mecufi district headquarters, with an increase in FDS personnel, but this did not prevent the population from leaving their villages towards the city of Pemba.

<https://cartamz.com/index.php/sociedade/item/15841-terroristas-causam-panico-na-vila-de-mecufi-depois-de-ocupar-a-aldeia-nampwlimuity-durante-19-horas?tmpl=component&print=1>

And on Thursday 1 February insurgents killed two people at the Chai administrative post in Macomia district. They also kidnapped one person.

"They took us by surprise. The terrorists came and killed two people and kidnapped another", said a source from the district capital, Macomia town, adding that "lately, the Chai post has suffered many attacks and raids by terrorists." "I lost food because of the terrorists. They got into our fields and spoilt the crops. I'll only go to Chai again, if the authorities allow it, otherwise I'd rather starve here in Macomia", said another source.

Located on the N380 national road, one of the few paved roads in the region, linking to the northern districts of Cabo Delgado, the Chai administrative post has two military positions, held by Mozambican forces and by their allies from Rwanda. <https://clubofmozambique.com/news/mozambique-terrorists-kill-two-in-chai-253424/>

## 3. Presence of insurgents leads to the closure of public services in the Quissanga district

Public services including health, were closed until further notice on Monday (05), in Quissanga and Bilibiza, Cabo Delgado province, due to the circulation of insurgents in their vicinity. Two groups were in the villages

of Nacoba and Mussomero, the latter about six kilometers from the headquarters of the Quissanga district, a situation that caused fear on the part of residents, including those at the district headquarters.

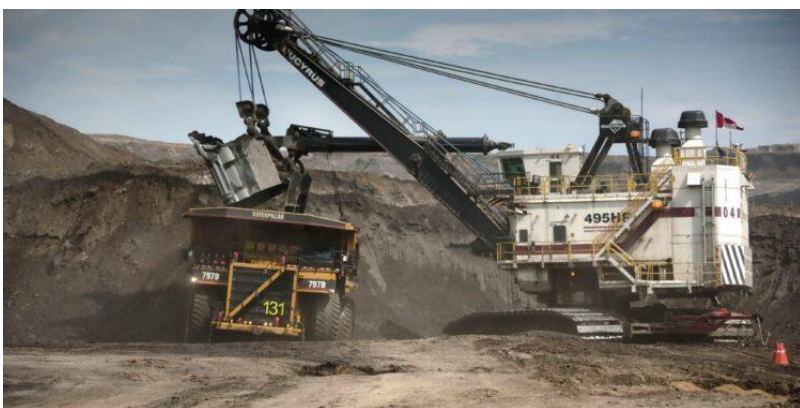
"When the information arrived, services immediately stopped and people began to leave. The doctor and other colleagues who were leaving Pemba were also forced to return after being informed of the presence of the insurgents in Mussomero. In Bilibiza there was also no work when they found out", said a health technician assigned to that district. Another source described that, during their stay in Mussomero, the heavily armed insurgents did not carry out any act of violence, but informed the population to warn the state forces that they were just passing through and did not intend to engage in confrontation.

Due to the presence of insurgents the circulation of vehicles on the Quissanga/Cruzamento de 19 de Outubro and Quissanga/city of Pemba sections was interrupted. Furthermore, they had kidnapped a teacher at the Mahate-sede Complete Primary School, who was later released.

<https://cartamz.com/index.php/politica/item/15848-circulacao-de-terroristas-leva-ao-encerramento-de-servicos-publicos-no-distrito-de-quissanga?tmpl=component&print=1>

#### 4. Destruction of coastline continues with two new dune mining operations in Zambezia

Dune mining in the district of Pebane, in the province of Zambézia, by the Chinese company TZM Resources is expected to begin in the coming months, as the installation and testing of equipment is in the final phase.



The administrator of the Pebane district, Eduardo Vida, assured that "the start of activities will not take long, especially since the shipyards, port and camp are already ready". Vida claimed that the mining will boost development and generate jobs. Without giving evidence, he also claimed that some social responsibility activities are already being advanced by

TZM, mainly with regard to public lighting, electricity supply and granting of scholarships.

<https://integritymagazine.co.mz/arquivos/22477>

Dune mining is wreaking untold environmental destruction along the coastline and displacing entire communities, destroying their livelihoods whilst bringing them no benefits at all. Data from the United

Nations Research Institute for Social Development indicate that Mozambique is one of the countries that least returns money from the extraction of mineral resources to the communities hosting the projects. The Mozambican State concentrates 90% of revenues from the extractive industry in central-level bodies, leaving 7.25% for the province of origin and only 2.75% for the host communities. This contrasts starkly to Brazil, where the State returns 66% of revenue to the areas where the resources originate, while in Peru 55% of revenue is returned. Bolivia returns 41%, surpassing Indonesia which returns 15% and Nigeria which returns 13% of the revenue generated by oil exploration.

In the comparative analysis shared by the South African multinational, the Mozambican policy of returning money from the extractive industry to the areas where the resources originate is equal to that implemented in Colombia (10%) and only surpasses those implemented in Ghana (7%) , Papua New Guinea (5%) and Ecuador (2%).

<https://cartamz.com/index.php/economia-e-negocios/item/15853-industria-extractiva-mocambique-e-dos-paises-que-menos-devolve-dinheiro-as-comunidades?tmpl=component&print=1>