



PLSO MOZAMBIQUE

Weekly Security Report
29 - 5 December



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Cabo Delgado Security Situation

Recent insurgent activity in Cabo Delgado highlights a resurgence of violence across northern and southern districts. Attacks, displacement, and insurgent movements reveal a dynamic strategy aimed at exploiting security gaps, spreading fear, and destabilizing communities.

Spread of Attacks:

Increased attacks in Chiúre and Ancuabe signal insurgents expanding operations into less affected southern areas.

Continued violence in Macomia and Mocímboa da Praia reinforces their presence in historic strongholds.

Insurgent Movements:

Coordinated activity in Macomia and Ancuabe, with movements toward coastal areas, suggests preparation for further operations.

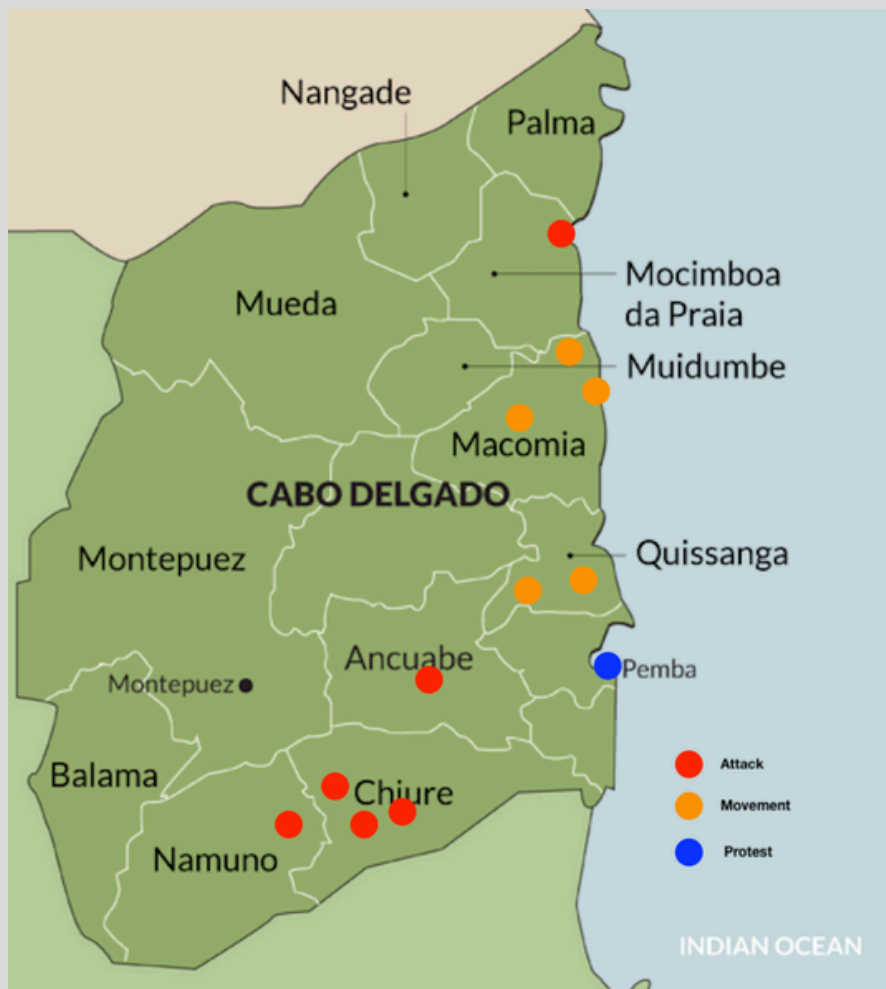
Mass Displacement:

Over 14,000 people have fled, straining resources and complicating stabilization efforts.

Targeted Tactics:

Burning of homes and churches in Juravo, Tecuane, and Moponha disrupts community cohesion.

Looting in Tete village indicates resource shortages among insurgents. Abductions in Impire suggest forced recruitment or intelligence gathering.



Insurgency Presence



Next 7-Day Outlook

- **Continued Insurgent Operations:**

Targeted attacks likely in Chiúre, Ancuabe, Macomia, and Mocímboa da Praia, aiming to destabilize communities and displace populations. Increased looting expected as insurgents seek resources.

- **Population Displacement:**

Civilian displacement will continue, intensifying humanitarian needs.

- **Security Force Responses:**

Military operations against insurgents may escalate, with possible international support, including Rwandan forces.

- **Humanitarian Impact:**

Ongoing violence may hinder aid delivery, worsening conditions for displaced populations.

- **Regional Concerns:**

Potential spill over risks for neighbouring provinces and countries.

Recommendations

- **Vigilance:** Communities should report suspicious activities.
- **Preparedness:** Humanitarian groups must plan for increased displacement and ensure aid delivery.
- **Collaboration:** Strengthen regional security cooperation to counter threats.

Cabo Delgado remains volatile, with continued attacks, displacement, and humanitarian challenges expected over the next week.

Category	21-28 November	28 November – 2 December
Intensity of Violence	Frequent, high-casualty incidents, including direct confrontations with militias (e.g., Naparama).	Fewer large-scale attacks but impactful actions like house burnings and targeted abductions.
Geographic Focus	Concentrated in Ancuabe, Macomia, and Chiúre; panic spread to Nampula and Metuge.	Broader activity within Chiúre, Ancuabe, and Macomia, with sustained presence in strongholds.
Targeting Civilians	Indirect targeting through displacement, looting of food aid, and psychological disruption.	Direct targeting with home burnings (e.g., Juravo, Tecuane) and abductions (Impire village).
Tactics	Direct assaults, ambushes, and symbolic acts (e.g., decapitation); IEDs introduced in Macomia.	Psychological and resource-driven tactics, such as looting, house burnings, and population displacement.
Displacement	High displacement due to insurgent movements and direct threats, especially in panic-affected areas.	Over 14,000 people displaced, mainly from Chiúre and Ancuabe, following intensified insurgent actions.
Insurgent Strategy	Concentrated attacks aimed at asserting dominance and high-profile violence.	Shift to sustained operations, targeting infrastructure, resources, and spreading fear over a wider area.

- **Shift in Tactics:** Insurgents have moved from concentrated high-impact attacks to broader, low-intensity operations aimed at psychological disruption and resource acquisition.
- **Increased Displacement:** Both periods saw significant civilian displacement, with the recent period showing a higher number of displaced individuals due to sustained insurgent pressure.



Incidents: Cabo Delgado

November 28: Insurgents attacked the Juravo and Tecuane communities in Chiúre district, burning houses and churches. No fatalities recorded as most residents had fled.

November 29: Terrorists' attacks in Cabo Delgado province led to the displacement of 14,287 people in at least two districts (Chiure and Ancuabe) in the south of the province.

December 2: A credible source report that on the evening of 02 Dec, the Mopanha village in the district of Ancuabe, was attacked. Houses were set on fire and the population fled.

December 1: Insurgents abducted three men in the village of Impire in Metuge district while they were leaving a farm. The local population reported the incident to the village chief, expressing concern over the delayed response from security forces.

December 1: Insurgents attacked Tete village, in Mocímboa da Praia, ransacking homes and stealing food and other essentials. No immediate reports of casualties.

December 2: An armed insurgent attack targeted Moponha village, in Ancuabe District.

December 2: Insurgents spotted in Manica village, Macomia District.

December 2: A small group of insurgents observed in Pequeue village, Macomia District.

December 2: A significant group of insurgents was seen moving from Gaza village, in Macomia District, towards the coast.

December 2: Insurgents were observed moving through the forest surrounding Kathupa village, in Macomia District.

December 2: Insurgents were seen passing through Rapale village, in Ancuabe District, heading south.



The Escalation of Political Unrest in Mozambique

The ongoing protests and insurgency activities across Mozambique highlight widespread dissatisfaction stemming from disputed election results, socio-political grievances, and economic struggles. Key urban areas, including Maputo, Matola, and Pemba, have seen significant unrest, while rural areas are also affected by insurgent activities, particularly in Cabo Delgado and Nampula provinces.

Urban Unrest and Protests:

- Maputo and Matola: Demonstrations include road blockades, burning of vehicles, vandalism of public infrastructure, and violent confrontations with security forces.
- Nampula: Protests escalated with police shootings and injuries, targeting demonstrators and even media outlets, indicating heightened tensions.
- Zambezia and Inhambane: Protests include burning of party headquarters and road barricades, showcasing the spread of unrest to peripheral provinces.

Security Forces' Response:

- Heavy-handed tactics by the police and UIR, including the use of live ammunition and tear gas, have exacerbated tensions and resulted in civilian casualties.
- Accusations of police and military misconduct, such as firing into homes and targeting civilians, further erode trust in the government.

Psychological and Economic Impacts:

- Disruption of basic services, including healthcare and education, in urban centers like Maputo, has severe implications for civilian life.
- Economic strains, including inflation and stalled infrastructure projects, amplify grievances, feeding into the cycle of unrest.





Demonstrations and Violence

Casualties: At least five deaths and 22 injuries were reported on the first day of the 4x4 Phase, highlighting the intensity of clashes between demonstrators and security forces.

Violent Protests:

- **Protesters in Morrumbala, Zambézia:**

Vandalized public institutions, including a police station, judicial court, and Frelimo Party headquarters.

Released 100 inmates from a local prison and seized police vehicles and firearms.

Set fires and looted public and private property.

- **In Maputo Province:**

Residents blocked access to the Beleluane Industrial Park, disrupting operations at MOZAL, a major contributor to Mozambique's exports.

- **In Machipanda, Manica Province:**

Former employees sabotaged a railway line, demanding compensation.

Economic and Social Disruptions

- **Economic Impact:**

Construction sector: 58 companies reported an inability to pay wages due to work stoppages.

Export sector: Blockades at key economic hubs, like MOZAL and Ressano Garcia border, have reduced tax revenue.

- **Education:**

Protests led to the suspension of final exams in Gaza, Zambézia, and other provinces due to teacher strikes and unrest.

Teachers protested unpaid overtime from 2022–2024.

- **Public Services:**

Threats to salary payments in the public sector, particularly education and health, due to disrupted revenue collection.

Political Tensions

- Venâncio Mondlane's leadership of the demonstrations has galvanized significant public support, with badges and propaganda becoming symbols of the movement.
- President Nyusi's rejection of Mondlane's dialogue terms underscores the deepening divide between the government and opposition.
- The government's accusations of foreign financing for the protests reflect heightened political sensitivity and attempts to delegitimize the opposition.



Risk Assessment

- **Urban Areas:**

Protests in Maputo, Matola, and Nampula will likely continue, targeting government institutions, infrastructure, and FRELIMO party offices. These areas face a high risk of further violence and economic disruptions.

Increased police and military presence in urban areas may lead to more confrontations and civilian casualties.

- **Humanitarian and Economic Strains:**

Escalating unrest are likely to worsen displacement, disrupt aid delivery, and further strain Mozambique's fragile economy.

- **Political Polarization:**

The divide between opposition groups and the government may deepen, with protests potentially extending into other provinces.

Predictions for the Coming Week

- **Escalation of Protests:**

Demonstrations are likely to intensify, particularly in urban centers like Maputo, Matola, and provincial capitals such as Quelimane and Beira.

Targeted acts of vandalism and blockades may expand to additional critical infrastructure.

- **Economic Strain:**

Continued disruptions at economic hubs (e.g., MOZAL, borders) will further impact exports and government revenue collection.

Wages in the public and private sectors will face increased delays, exacerbating grievances.

- **Heightened Security Measures:**

The government is expected to deploy more military and police forces to contain protests, potentially leading to further casualties and human rights concerns.

Retaliatory acts by demonstrators, including sabotage and infrastructure targeting, may increase.

- **Political Deadlock:**

Dialogue between the government and opposition remains unlikely without significant international mediation.

Opposition movements, led by Mondlane, will continue to gain momentum, creating a sustained cycle of unrest.

The situation in Mozambique remains volatile, with a high likelihood of escalating violence and socio-political instability in the coming week.

Category	Previous Week (Nov 21–28)	This Week (Nov 29–Dec 4)
Protests	Maputo demonstrations included road blockades, clashes with police, and limited regional spread.	Intensified protests in Maputo, Matola, and Nampula, with spread to Inhambane, Tete, and Zambezia.
Urban Violence	Police use of tear gas and live ammunition caused injuries; some reports of vandalism.	Police violence escalated, including deaths (e.g., in Maputo and Matola); increased infrastructure targeting.
Casualties	Limited casualties during protests; sporadic injuries in insurgent-affected areas.	Increased casualties: at least 76 deaths and 1,700 injuries from protests; insurgent attacks displaced thousands.
Targeted Infrastructure	Protests disrupted roads and public transport in urban centres.	Roads, schools, and health units targeted; barricades and vandalism expanded to new areas.
Geographic Spread	Primarily Maputo, Matola, and parts of Cabo Delgado.	Wider unrest, including Nampula, Tete, Inhambane, and Zambezia; insurgency remained in the north.
Tactics	Protesters used barricades and roadblocks; police used live ammunition sporadically.	Escalated tactics: homemade explosives (Maputo), tear gas in homes (Tete), and direct targeting of infrastructure.
Political Context	Calls for electoral transparency; initial signs of unrest spreading post-election.	Prolonged protests over elections; opposition leaders call for new phases of action and threats of extended unrest.
Government Response	Police deployed to urban centres; government calls for calm.	Zero-tolerance stance, heightened force, and crackdown on protests; accusations of foreign influence in unrest.
Economic Impact	Disruption to transport and public services began to emerge.	Heightened disruption to services (education, health, waste collection); inflation expected to accelerate.

- **Escalation of Violence:**

This week saw a significant rise in casualties and the intensity of clashes between protesters and security forces compared to the previous week.

- **Geographic Expansion:**

Protests spread beyond Maputo and Matola to rural provinces, showing increased national scope.

- **Worsening Humanitarian Impacts:**

Insurgency-related displacement continued in the north, while protests disrupted essential services in urban and rural areas.

- **Government Crackdown:**

The government's zero-tolerance approach this week has further polarized tensions, with increasing accusations of human rights violations.

Impact of Venâncio Mondlane's "Phase 4x4" protest strategy

Venâncio Mondlane's "Phase 4x4" protest strategy, initiated on December 4, 2024, has significantly intensified civil unrest across Mozambique. The plan called for nationwide demonstrations, including road blockades and disruptions to daily activities, from 8:00 AM to 3:30 PM.



Impact of "Phase 4x4" Protests:

- **Escalation of Violence:** The protests have led to increased confrontations between demonstrators and security forces, resulting in numerous casualties. Human Rights Watch reported that at least 10 children were killed by security forces during these demonstrations.
- **Economic Disruptions:** The unrest has severely affected economic activities. For instance, an auction of Mozambique's fishing trawlers failed to attract any bids due to the instability, deterring potential buyers.
- **Public Service Interruptions:** Essential services, including healthcare and education, have been disrupted, impacting daily life and access to critical resources.
- **International Concerns:** The violent crackdown on protests has drawn condemnation from international organizations, such as Amnesty International, which called on the Mozambican government to end the repression of human rights.

Mondlane's strategy has mobilized significant public participation, reflecting widespread dissatisfaction with the electoral process and governance. However, the resulting instability poses substantial challenges to Mozambique's socio-economic fabric and international standing.

Political Incidents: by Province

Maputo

November 30: Women in Maputo marched in condemnation of the running over of a young woman during recent demonstrations in Mozambique.

December 2: "Frelimo tombs" are increasing on public roads as a form of protesting against the current government.

December 3: The Mayor of Maputo, highlighted the severe impact of post-election protests on public services, including healthcare, education, and waste collection. He urged residents to avoid violent demonstrations and barricades to ensure the city can continue providing basic services.

December 4: After the whistles and vuvuzelas, badges with the image of Venancio Mondalene, became the new propaganda business in the 4x4 phase of the demonstrations in the city of Maputo.

December 4: The Mozambican Federation of Contractors (FME) announced that around 58 construction companies have not been paying wages to workers since November, due to the work stoppages linked to the ongoing violent protests.

December 4: Protesters burned a bus belonging to the transport company LALGY, likely in retaliation to police violence.

December 4: Protesters put up barricades and blocked the Maputo-Matola toll booth and the roads of Marracuene.



December 4: The police station of Malhampsene neighbourhood in Matola, was set on fire.

December 4: Reports indicated that the police killed a young protester in the Malhampsene neighbourhood, Matola.

December 4: Protesters erected barricades, burned tires, and blocked roads on Av. Eduardo Mondlane and Av. do Trabalho. The UIR responded by firing shots and using tear gas to disperse the crowds.

December 5: The General Command of the Police of Mozambique (PRM) presented a gas dealer named Yassin, suspected of bribing young people with money and energy drinks to incite violence, vandalism, and public disobedience.

December 5: Dozens of people spent hours sitting and lying on the ground at Maputo International Airport, waiting for 4 p.m., which is the time authorized by Venâncio Mondlane and his supporters for vehicle circulation.

Maputo City: December 4

6:20am: Av. Julius Nyerere blocked in front of the Presidency and Malanga (Av. 24 de Julho) road blocked as well.

8am: (unconfirmed): Individuals in the Luis Cabral "Brigada" neighbourhood threw homemade bombs into the UIR barracks.

8:10am: Ressano Garcia border closed.

8:30am: Bairro do Jardim, blocked road in front of the universal church.

9:44am: Corner of Compone, Av. Vladimir Lenine, the road was blocked.

9:50am: Av. Guerra Popular, road blocked.

9:50am: Av. De Moçambique, road blocked.

9:50am: Protesters placed barricades while motorists abandoned their vehicles in the middle of the N1 in the Inhagoia neighbourhood, on Av. de Moçambique and Av. Guerra Popular.

11:20am: Av. Acordos de Lusaka-Maputo, blocked.

1pm: Protesters closed the roads in the Xiquelene neighbourhood.

1:30pm: Reports said protesters cut down trees to block Lusaka Accords Avenue.

2:20pm: Protesters suspended a scrap car on the pedestrian crossing bridge on the EN4 in the Luis Cabral neighbourhood.



Maputo Province: December 4

- 8:38am:** (unconfirmed) POS and ATMs not working.
- 9:00am:** Shooting reported in Malhampsewene, Matola.
- 9:10am:** Demonstrations held in Casa Branca, Matola. The police reportedly fired tear gas to disperse protesters.
- 9:44am:** Residents closed the road accessing the Beleluane Industrial Park, restricting access to MOZAL.
- 9:50am:** Protesters block the road in João Mateus, Matola.
- 9:50am:** Drivers refusing to pay at the Kumbeza Toll - Marracuene.
- 9:50am:** The Rapid Intervention Unit (UIR) fired shots and tear gas to disperse protesters in Malhampsewene neighbourhood.
- 1:22pm:** A SERNIC agent allegedly shot a 13-year-old in Mozal, Matola.
- 1:29pm:** Protests reported at Ponta do Ouro border post.

Inhambane

- December 1:** Violent demonstrations in Inhambane province last week resulted in ten injuries among civilians and police.
- December 4:** Along the N1, in the district of Inhassoro, protesters placed barricades on the road, blocking traffic.

Zambézia

- December 4:** In Morrumbala, protesters vandalized and looted various public and private institutions, including the police station, judicial court, Frelimo Party headquarters, and municipal assembly. The protests also led to the cancellation of final exams for the 10th and 12th grades, and young people set fires, looted property, and freed 100 inmates from the local prison, while also seizing police vehicles and firearms.
- December 4:** The Murrumbala FRELIMO party headquarters burned down.
- December 5:** Manuel de Araujo, president of the Quelimane municipality and candidate for governor of Zambezia province in the October 9 elections, called for general protests in Zambezia province until the proclamation of the election results by the Constitutional Council.



Nampula

November 29: 30 people were injured in Nampula city after being shot by security forces during demonstrations.

December 4: 16 people injured and 4 shot dead during protests in Nampula city.

December 4: In the Carrupeia and Namicopo neighbourhoods, the police fired shots to disperse protesters attempting to block the main roads.

December 4: Teenagers in motorbikes staged demonstrations by blowing their whistles and vuvuzelas on Rua Unidade and Rua Monomotapa, Nampula city.

December 4: Road near Girassol Nampula blocked off by protesters, and police used tear gas to disperse the crowd.

December 4: UIR agents reportedly fired at the Jornal Ikweli offices, without just cause, Nampula city.

December 4: Reports indicated that police in Murrupula province shot a young protester in the head.

December 5: PRM fatally shot seven people during protests in the locality of Namina, in the Mecubúri district.

Tete

December 2: FRELIMO marched in Tete city to condemn vandalism during recent election protests.

December 4: The police reportedly fired tear gas inside homes located in the Canongola neighbourhood. It is suspected that demonstrations were ongoing in the area.

Cabo Delgado

December 4: Protests in downtown Rua do Porto, near the Bank of Mozambique, Pemba.

December 4: Protesters tried to close the road close to the airport. PRM reported to have fired tear gas.



National and International

November 29: President Filipe Nyusi calls for an end to the destruction of public and private infrastructure and the deaths of police officers and civilians during protests in the country.

November 29: Criminal complaint filed by lawyers against Mozambican military personnel who ran over a young woman during demonstrations in the city of Maputo.

November 30: Mozambican Defense and Security Forces accuse some civil society organizations, including foreigners, of financing demonstrations to create "generalized chaos" in the country.

December 1: PODEMOS Party files cases against President Filipe Nyusi and the Mozambican Government at the International Criminal Court (ICC), accusing them of human rights violations.

December 1: President Filipe Nyusi urges promoters of violent demonstrations not to prevent general secondary education students from taking final exams, which begin this week.

December 2: Police blame "foreign financiers" for electoral demonstrations in the country

December 2: The RENAMO national council will only meet next year, when the Constitutional Council delivers its verdict on the October elections.

December 2: In a live broadcast, Venâncio Mondlane announced a new phase of protests, starting on December 4th, called "Phase 4x4,". These demonstrations will last until December 11th and involve blocking roads, railway lines, and stopping machinery from 8:00 AM to 3:30 PM.

December 2: Recent protests in Mozambique over disputed election results have resulted in at least 76 deaths and over 1,700 injuries.

December 2: The Minister of Interior announced a zero-tolerance stance toward the demonstrations called by Venâncio Mondlane, arguing that they are illegal and violent and all necessary measures will be taken to ensure a smooth conduct of social ceremonies and operation of institutions.

December 2: The PODEMOS party announced its willingness to dialogue with the government to end the demonstrations.

December 3: The Technical Secretariat for Electoral Administration and the National Elections Commission (CNE), are threatening to march to the house of the CNE president. This protest is in response to delays in the payment of subsidies for the 2023 and 2024 national electoral period.



December 3: Over 100 Mozambican NGOs, condemned the accusations made by the deputy general commander of the Mozambican Police (PRM), who claimed that the demonstrations against alleged fraud in the general elections were financed by civil society organizations and “individuals of bad faith”.

December 3: RENAMO and MDM parties believe that the only solution to the post-electoral crisis is to annul the general elections held on October 9th, in turn the PODEMOS party maintains that there is no need to annul the elections, provided that the electoral will is restored.

December 3: The National Human Rights Commission urged the Attorney General's Office to investigate the crimes that occurred during the post-election demonstrations organized by Venâncio Mondlane, with the goal of holding those responsible accountable.

December 3: Amnesty International has called on the Government of Mozambique to end the "violent and widespread repression" of Human Rights, reminding the government that International Law prohibits the deployment of military personnel to police protests.

December 3: Venancio Mondlane has threatened to lead another "two to three months" of anti-government demonstrations. In an interview with the BBC, he claimed that the pressure from these demonstrations could force FRELIMO into negotiations.

December 3: The Portuguese Ambassador to Mozambique, expressed that the Portuguese community is facing the post-election tension with concern, resilience, and mutual support. He emphasized the embassy's ongoing efforts to ensure the community's security and the hope that Mozambican institutions will resolve the crisis.

December 4: At least five people died and another 22 were shot on the first day of the 4x4 phase of demonstrations against the electoral results.

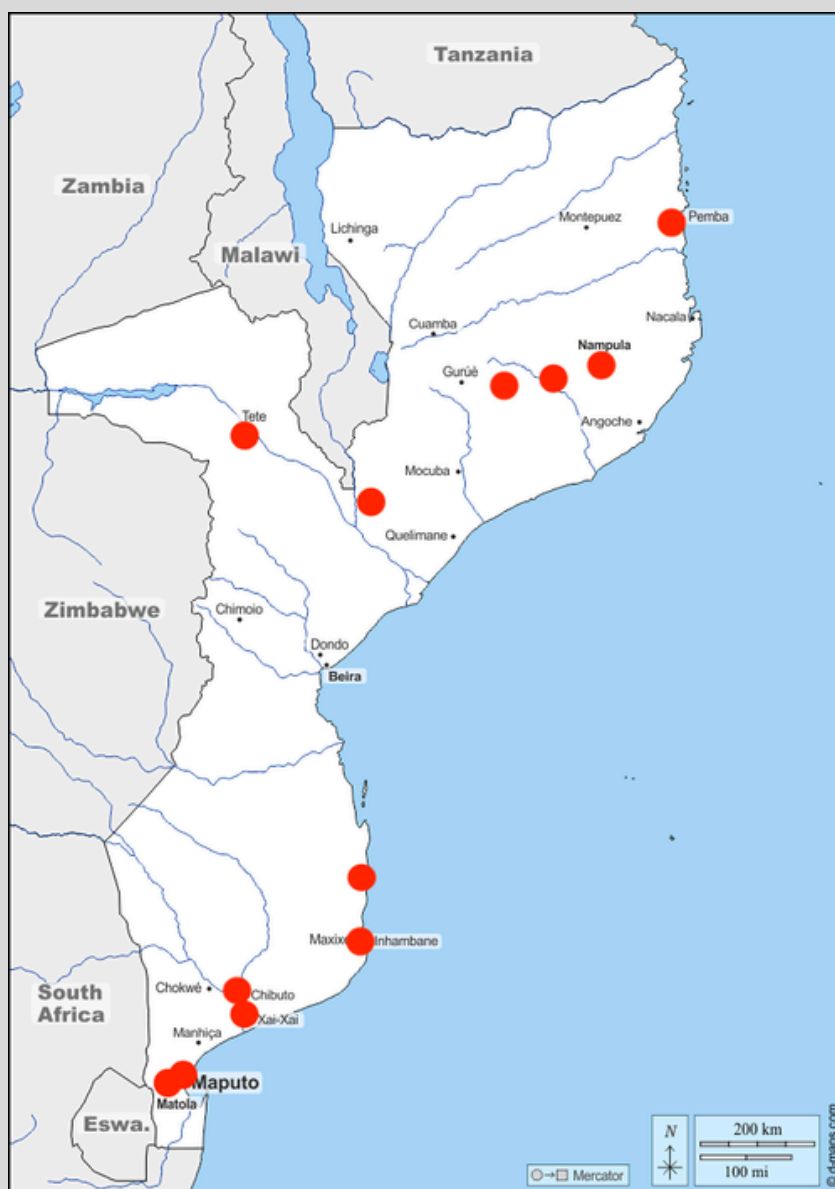
December 4: President Nyusi warned that the ongoing violent demonstrations across the country could hinder salary payments in the public sector, specifically highlighting the education and health sectors. He also pointed out that the blockade of the Ressano Garcia border has negatively impacted tax revenue collection.

December 4: President Nyusi criticized the conditions set by presidential candidate Venâncio Mondlane for the dialogue on the post-electoral crisis, rejecting the creation of a unilateral agenda.

December 5: Government of the United States of America (USA) denies the accusations of funding individuals to participate in protests against the election results. In a statement sent to our newsroom, dated December 4, 2024, the U.S. government clarified that, through USAID and GiveDirectly, it is implementing a direct cash assistance project aimed at reducing poverty in rural agricultural communities prone to disasters.

December 5: President Nyusi criticized the intimidation of people with "different opinions" and called for the use of legal tools to resolve conflicts, warning that this is a "Democratic State."

December 5: Police authorities announced that at least 21 people were injured and 14 were arrested during the protests on December 5th.



Protest Locations



General Incidents

November 29: In Mogovolas district, Nampula, locals vandalised a health unit and properties belonging to an NGO.

November 29: An intense fire in Inhambane city destroyed several compartments and furniture at the Provincial Nursery.

November 30: Teachers at Liberdade Secondary School in Matola Municipality, Maputo Province, condition the administration of school exams on the payment of overtime hours.

December 1: In the first months of this year, nine motorcycle taxi drivers lost their lives as victims of accidents in the province of Manica.

December 1: Authorities in Cabo Delgado incinerated 14kg of hashish, seized in Pemba, with a total of 100kg of drugs seized throughout the year.

December 2: Teachers promise to boycott exams starting today across the country.

December 2: Low natural gas prices impact the profits of Companhia Moçambicana de Hidrocarbonos (CMH).

December 2: Port of Maputo makes positive assessment of the first year of the Pessene truck fleet, reaching an average of 948 trucks a day and increasing the number of mineral trucks at the Port of Maputo by 24%.

December 2: The Minister of Health, emphasized the urgency of addressing the cholera outbreak in Mogovolas district, Nampula, which has resulted in seven deaths recently.

December 2: The Mozambique Red Cross, has started distributing food aid to 800 families in Gaza's Massingir and Massangena districts.

December 2: The Mozambican government is close to approving a contract with the ENI consortium for the Coral Norte gas project, which will produce 3.5 million tons of liquefied natural gas per year. Critics argue this decision should be left to the future administration to better serve national interests.

December 3: The Bank of Mozambique forecasts an increase in prices until the end of the year due to post-election tensions, with inflation expected to accelerate in the fourth quarter of 2024.

December 3: President Nyusi appointed Américo Julião Letela as the new Attorney General of the Republic.



December 3: The government asks teachers for calm and patience, assuring that it will soon pay the outstanding overtime and fulfill its commitments.

December 3: Mozambican businesspeople have expressed concerns about the lack of formal and comprehensive consultations with the private sector during critical stages of the gas project in the Rovuma Basin, in Cabo Delgado.

December 4: Former employees of BRLM, a company that provided services to the state-owned Caminhos de Ferro de Moçambique (CFM), partially destroyed the railway line in Machipanda, Manica province, in demand for compensation payment.

December 4: Final exams for 10th and 12th grades had started smoothly on Monday, but the situation changed when teachers in Chibuto, Mandlakazi, and Limpopo districts halted the exams, citing the government's refusal to settle the overtime payments.

December 5: A dozen young people armed with an AK47 threatened nurses inside an ambulance at Infulene Psychiatric Hospital in Maputo, Mozambique.

Total Incidents

