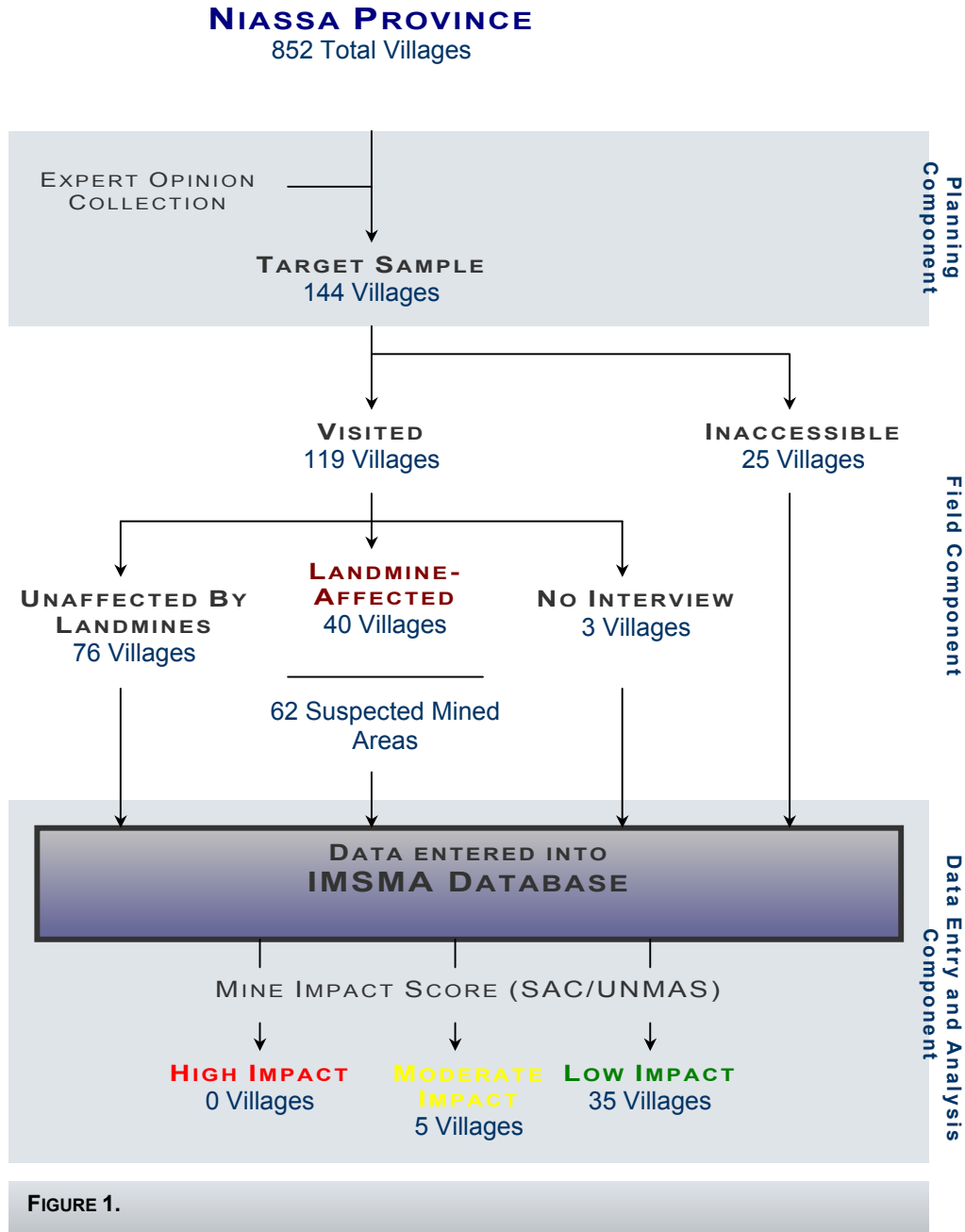


OVERVIEW FOR NIASSA PROVINCE



The term “village” as used herein has the same meaning as the term “community” used elsewhere.

Schematic of process.



The Mozambique Landmine Impact Survey (MLIS) visited 15 of 16 Districts in Niassa. Cidade de Lichinga was not visited, as it is considered by Mozambican authorities not to be landmine-affected. Of the 119 villages visited, 40 identified themselves as landmine-affected, reporting 62 Suspected Mined Areas (SMAs). No interview was conducted in three villages, which were unknown to the local population or were found to be uninhabited. Figure 1 provides an overview of the survey process: village selection; data collection; and data-entry into the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) database, out of which is generated the Mine Impact Score (Appendix I).

Expert Opinion Collection formed the basis for the selection of villages. Information from Official Interviews, from organizations active in the Province (HALO Trust, Handicap International), from the National Demining Institute (DITERS Database) and from the personal knowledge of four of CIDC's senior personnel as a result of their involvement in the mine-action field in, among other parts of Mozambique, Niassa Province over the several immediately preceding years, were taken into account.

Village Survey Questionnaires were administered in every village found to be landmine-affected to a total of 365 Interviewees. The vast majority of Interviewees (79%) had occupations in agriculture, fishing and related activities. All age groups were well represented in each group interview, with on average one third of Interviewees aged from 15 to 29 years, and one third aged from 30 to 44 years. The remaining one third was accounted for by Interviewees older than 44 years or of unknown age. Women participated in 53% of group interviews.

Provincial summary indicating number of CIDC village visits, population and reported Suspected Mined Areas and victims.

District	Villages		Population	Mined Areas and Victims		
	Affected Villages	Unaffected Villages	Affected Population	Number of SMAs	Victims in Last 2 Years	Total Victims
CUAMBA	5	6	6,243	9	0	18
LAGO	1	5	1,058	3	0	1
LICHINGA	3	7	3,164	3	0	6
MAJUNE	0	10	-	-	-	-
MANDIMBA	3	5	9,125	4	0	3
MARRUPA	2	10	1,802	7	0	1
MAUA	3	7	3,543	5	2	2*
MAVAGO	0	2	-	-	-	-
MECANHELAS	7	5	12,600	12	1	13*
MECULA	3	4	4,083	5	0	4*
METARICA	3	2	1,347	4	0	1
MUEMBE	1	3	2,007	1	0	7
N-GAUMA	1	3	1,883	1	0	0
NIPEPE	2	4	4,933	2	0	3
SANGA	6	3	8,591	6	0	1
Total	40	76	60,379	62	3	60

* Minimum value: certain communities could not report the precise number of victims

TABLE 1.

Table 1 summarises the principal findings for Niassa by District. A further breakdown by village in each District visited can be found at Appendix II. SMAs were reported in each District visited except for Majune and Mavago, located respectively in the central and the northern regions of the Province.

Landmine-affected villages were most numerous in the Districts of Mecanhelas (7), Sanga (6) and Cuamba (5), all of which reported victims (13, 1 and 18 respectively). Victims within the two years preceding the MLIS were reported in the Districts of Maua (2) and Mecanhelas (1). The Districts of

Mecanhelas and Cuamba were found to have the highest number of SMAs, with 12 and nine respectively. The potentially affected populations in these two Districts accounted for 31% of the total potentially affected population.

VICTIMS AND IMPACTS

VICTIMS

In total, 23 of 40 (58%) landmine-affected villages reported a total of at least 60 victims since the beginning of the Independence Struggle. Three villages could not specify the number of victims, although one of those villages reported having had many victims. Victims from only three villages, each with more than six reported victims, accounted for 43% of the total victim tally for the Province.

Three landmine victims, each from different villages, were reported for the two-year period preceding the MLIS. Additional information was available for only one of those recent victims. He was identified as a male amputee of 30 to 44 years of age.

IMPACTS ON RESOURCES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Figure 2 displays the number of villages in Niassa with blocked access to resources (water, cropland, pasture land and non-agricultural land) or infrastructure (blocked roads, other infrastructure points and services such as educational and health facilities).

Blockage impacts on resources were reported as follows, in descending order of frequency: agricultural land (45%); non-agricultural land (used for hunting, gathering fruit and medicinal plants, and collecting firewood and building materials; 30%); and water for drinking and other purposes (15%).

Blocked access to educational or health services was reported by three villages, followed by blockage to roads (two villages) and infrastructure (one village).

Four (10%) villages reported seasonal variation in the severity of impacts: two reported that they were more severe during the rainy season, one reported increased severity during the dry season and one reported increased severity during summer, when the soil is prepared for planting.

Number of villages reporting blockage impacts by type.

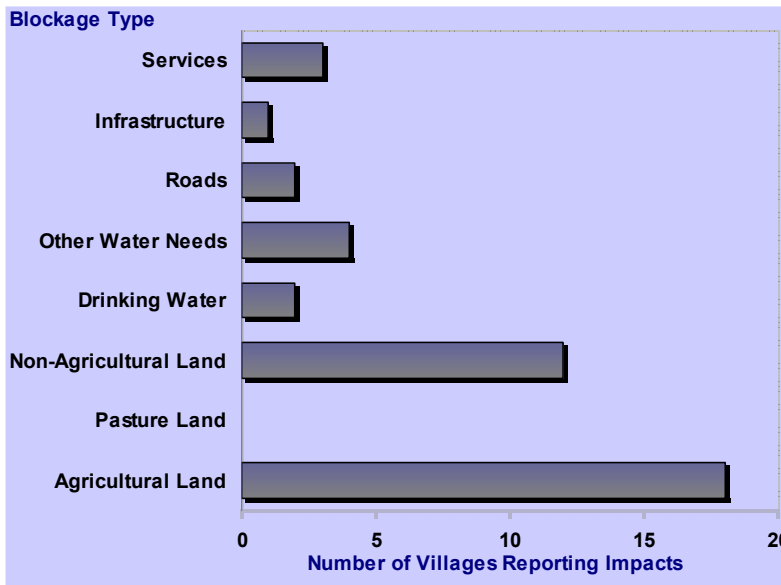


FIGURE 2.

For 23 villages (58%), more than one half of the interviewees reported that they worry a great deal about the presence of landmines, while for the remainder of villages (42%) the majority of interviewees worry a little or not at all. In total, 255 of 365 (70%) interviewees reported that they worry about landmines in their village, with 198 (54%) who reported that they worry a great deal. Overall, 221 of 365 interviewees (61%) reported that the

presence of landmines changes their behaviour.

MINE IMPACT SCORE

The Mine Impact Score developed by the Survey Action Centre and the United Nations Mine Action Service distills a number of important variables (presence of landmines/UXO, blockage impacts and recent victims) into a single index that permits comparisons among villages. The weights used by the CIDC to generate the scores can be found at Appendix I.

Except in the improbable event that large numbers of recent victims (victims reported within two-year period preceding the MLIS) are widespread, the Mine Impact Score assigns a large number of villages to the low-impact category. The need has therefore been expressed in Mozambique for a tool that would assist in establishing priorities among those low-impact villages. Some alternative indices are discussed in the national report.

No villages in Niassa fell into the high-impact category (Figure 3). A total of five moderately impacted villages were identified, all of which were located in the south of the Province (Maua, Mandimba, Cuamba and Mecanhelas). The aggregate population of these five villages totals almost 10,000 persons.

Low-impact villages were found to be dispersed throughout the Province, often in close proximity to major transport routes.

Of the 40 landmine-affected villages, 13 (33%) identified the impacts as becoming more severe with time, while six (15%) reported the impacts as becoming less severe with time.

Map of Niassa Districts illustrating the distribution of group interviews and their Mine Impact Score.

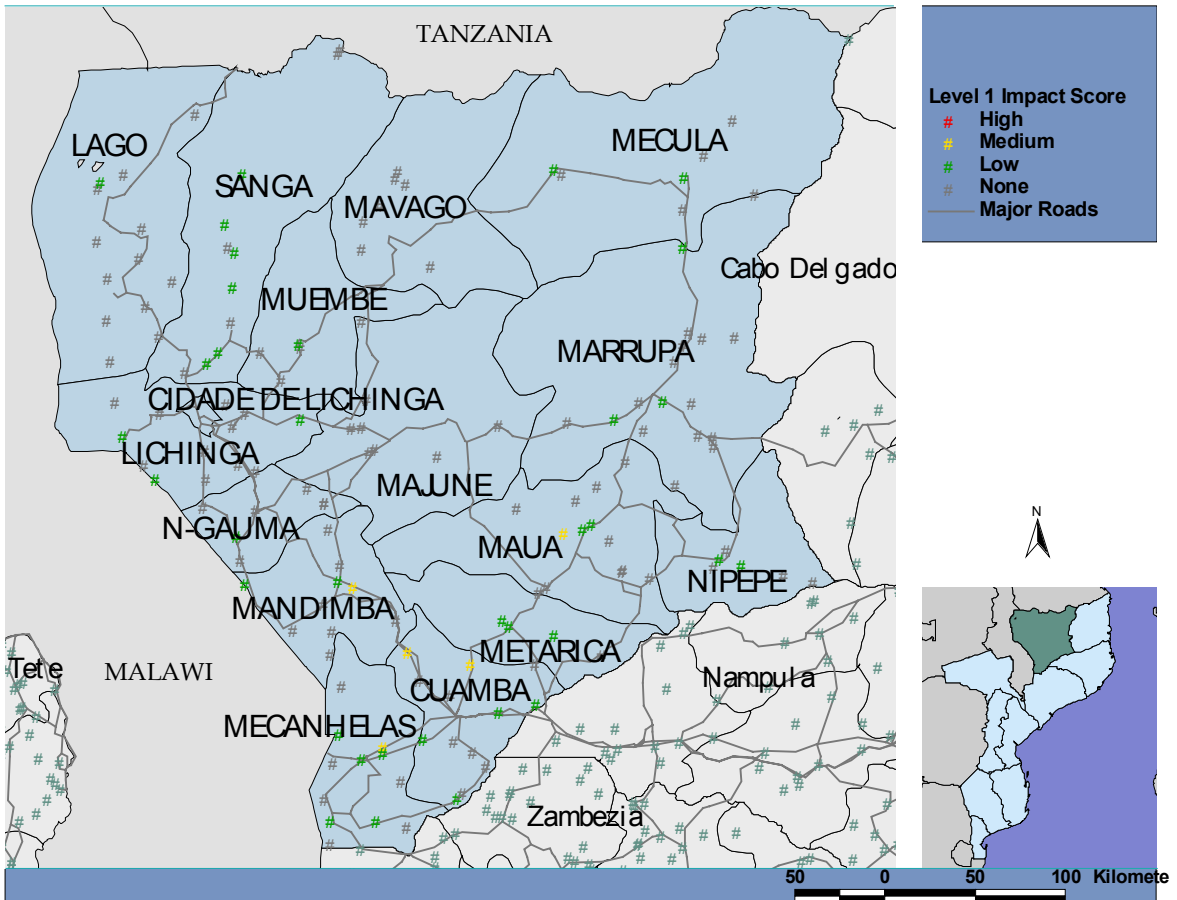


FIGURE 3.

MINE CONTAMINATION

DISTRIBUTION OF SUSPECTED MINED AREAS

Figure 4 illustrates that landmine contamination is generally concentrated along major transport routes in the Districts of Cuamba and Mecanheilas in the south and near the District capitals of Maua and Marrupa.

Map of Niassa Districts and administrative centres, illustrating the distribution of Suspected Mined Areas.

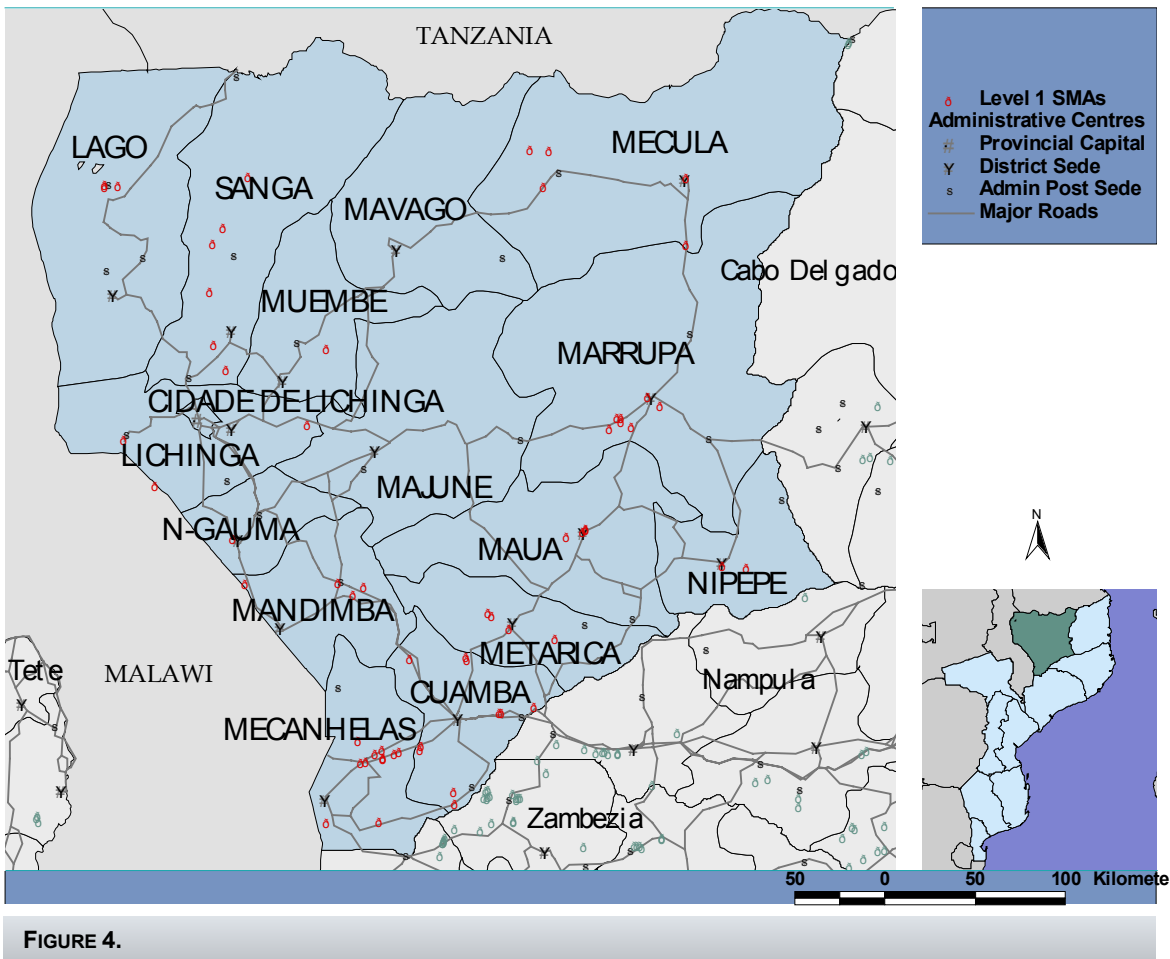


FIGURE 4.

Of the 40 landmine-affected villages reported in Niassa, 65% reported a single SMA and 30% reported two or three SMAs. Only two villages (Massaque in Mecanheilas District and Repele in Marrupa District) reported larger numbers of SMAs, each identifying five SMAs.

Information on the year in which landmines were first laid and the year in which they were last laid was reported for 56% and 55% of SMAs respectively. Landmines were first reportedly laid as far back as 1964. The vast majority of SMAs were first laid between 1983 and 1987, accounting for 80% of SMAs. The landmines in 56% of SMAs were last laid between 1985 and 1989, and landmines in 29% of SMAs were reportedly laid in 1991 and 1992.

TERRAIN AND TYPES OF ORDNANCE

SMA were predominantly described as having a flat ground profile (48%). Mixed vegetation was reported as the most common vegetation cover, accounting for 68% of cases, followed by grasses, which accounted for 23% of SMAs.

Most commonly, SMAs were classified as being proximate to trails and roads, accounting for over 42%. Nine SMAs were classified as former military installations, three were reported to be adjacent to a bridge, and two were described as surrounding the village. Most SMAs (42 of 62 or 68%) were reported to have no marking (signs or fences) that would indicate the area to be landmine-contaminated.

Of 40 landmine-affected villages, three (8%) reported harbouring unexploded ordnance (UXO), and an additional eight (20%) reported harbouring both landmines and UXO. The remainder consisted solely of landmines.

SIZE AND DISTANCE OF SUSPECTED MINED AREAS

Frequency histogram of various Suspected Mined Area sizes

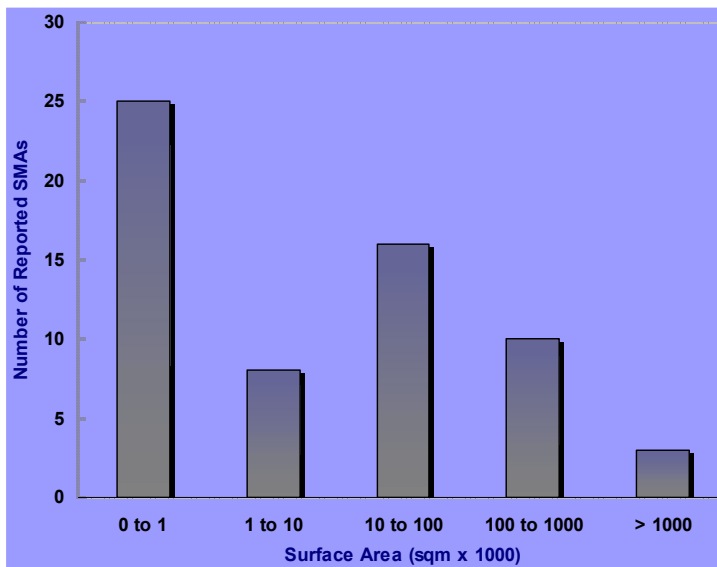


FIGURE 5.

A vast range of SMA sizes were reported, from several reports of single UXOs to SMAs covering tens of square kilometers, the largest being near the village of Mulipa in Cuamba District, reporting a SMA covering 14 km². Figure 5 shows the range of size estimates for the reported SMAs in Niassa. Forty per cent of SMAs were reported to be less than or equal to 1,000 m², many of which are mined infrastructure points. A large proportion of SMAs (26%) were also reported to be between 10,000 and 100,000 m².

Fifty-nine per cent of SMAs were reported to occur within 4 km of the affected village, and 87% were estimated to occur within 10 km. The most distant SMA was reported at a distance of 17.4 km from the affected village.

CONCLUSION

The principal findings of the MLIS in Niassa are as follows:

- Mecanhelas and Cuamba Districts reported the highest numbers of SMAs and victims. They also reported large numbers of landmine-affected villages;
- Over 60,000 persons out of a total of 581,987 live in villages harbouring landmines, with five villages considered to be moderately impacted based on the Mine Impact Score;
- A total of at least 60 victims were reported. Two villages reported a total of three victims from the two-year period preceding the MLIS;
- Blocked access to agricultural land was the most commonly reported impact of landmines on villages (45%).

APPENDIX I – MINE IMPACT SCORE WEIGHTS

Variable	Weight
Types of Ordnance	
Landmines	2*
Unexploded Ordnance (UXO)	1*
Blockage Impacts	
Rainfed cropland	2
Irrigated cropland	0
Fixed Pasture	2
Migratory pasture	0
Non-agricultural land	1
Drinking Water	2
Other water uses	1
Housing area was blocked	0
Roads	1
Other infrastructure	1
Victims	
Victims within last 24 months	2*
Fixed Weights value cannot be changed	

Weightings Assigned to Variables in Calculation of the Village Mine Impact Scores

APPENDIX II – VILLAGE VISITS

LANDMINE-FREE VILLAGES:

District	Villages	District	Villages	District	Villages	District	Villages
MANDIMBA	CADAUTA	MAJUNE	CHINUNGA	MECULA	MACALANG	CUAMBA	CARANQUE
	CHIMUALA		LIZOMBE		MBAMBA		MALAPA
	MEPARA/M		MALANGA		NALAMA		MEPICA
	MEZITO		MALILA	NTIMBO	MPULOIYO		
	MISSISSE		MECUALO	METARICA	MALAVI		MUHEYA
MARRUPA	CHITUCUR		MITOMONE		NACUMUA	NVAVA	
	CUMELA		NANDJESSA	MUEMBE	LAGO	BANDECE	
	MANHULA		PAUNDE			LIUMAMBI	MANIAMBAMBA
	MANTETE		PINDURA			LUNDALE	MEPOCHE
	MICURA		RIATE	LUSSINGE		MESSUMBA	
	NAIAIA	MAUA	MUEMBERE	N-GAUMA		MUCHEPA/	
	NAMUANGA		MUHOCO		ITEPELA	LICHINGA	A. MUSSA
	NANGAUIA		NLOCO-CH		MAGIGA		CHIGANGA
	NANLICHAMBA		NVERIUA	MATAMAND	CHIMBONI		
	TELEUE		NVITE	NIPEPE	CHEIA-CH		CHIOCO
MECANHELAS	CONVINHE	UAEVA	METAPUA		LUCHIRIN		
	EDUARDO	VAHIUA	NAPASSO	MATIPA			
	INSACA	MAVAGO	NHASSA/M	METONIA			
	M'PUNGA		NKALAPA	SANGA	CHICUEDO		
	MUEMBER	ROMA	CHILAPIT				
		NHAUREDJ					

LANDMINE-AFFECTED VILLAGES:

District	Admin Post	Village	Village Population	Number of SMAs	Total Victims	Recent Victims	Mine Impact Score
CUAMBA							
ETATARA							
		MULIPA	851	2	2	0	Low
		TETEMANE	3310	2	2	0	Low
LURIO							
		MUARUANE	350	2	0	0	Low
		NAPACALA	1106	2	4	0	Medium
		MURRULA	626	1	10	0	Low
LAGO							
COBUE							
		COBUE	1058	3	1	0	Low
LICHINGA							
CHIMBONILA							
		LITUNDE	330	1	0	0	Low
LIONE							
		CHALA	797	1	2	0	Low
MEPONDA							
		MEPONDA	2037	1	4	0	Low
MANDIMBA							
MANDIMBA-SEDE							
		LUELELE	482	1	0	0	Low
MITANDE							
		NALINGUE	2072	2	0	0	Medium
		MITANDE	6571	1	3	0	Low
MARRUPA							
MARRUPA-SEDE							
		MOCUBA	1543	2	0	0	Low
		REPELE	259	5	1	0	Low
MAUA							
MAUA							
		MUANDESS	1769	2	0	0	Low
		MAUA VIL	1264	2	N/A	1	Low
		NAMARICA	510	1	1	1	Medium
MECANHELAS							
CHIUTA							
		ENTRE -	789	1	1	1	Medium
		MASSAQUE	5183	5	9	0	Medium
		MULIR	913	1	0	0	Low
		MONGORA/	1105	1	0	0	Low
MECANHELAS SEDE							
		TOBUE	777	2	1	0	Low
		CHISSAUA	1690	1	N/A	0	Low
		CHAMBA/M	2143	1	2	0	Low

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

District	Admin Post	Village	Village Population	Number of SMAs	Total Victims	Recent Victims	Mine Impact Score
MECULA							
MATONDOVELA							
		MATOMDOV	299	3	N/A	0	Low
MECULA-SEDE							
		MECULA	1840	1	4	0	Low
		LUGENDA	1944	1	0	0	Low
METARICA							
METARICA							
		CUELIUA	983	2	0	0	Low
		NAUCARE	338	1	0	0	Low
NACUMUA							
		MOPELIVA	26	1	1	0	Low
MUEMBE							
CHICONONO							
		CHIUAMJO	2007	1	7	0	Low
N-GAUMA							
MASSANGULO							
		MASSANGU	1883	1	0	0	Low
NIPEPE							
NIPEPE							
		VANHIUA\	1735	1	1	0	Low
		NIPEPE	3198	1	2	0	Low
SANGA							
LUSSIMBEZE							
		NANSENHE	2872	1	0	0	Low
MACALOGÉ							
		MAUMBICA	1401	1	0	0	Low
		MACALONG	162	1	0	0	Low
MATCHEDJE							
		N.MADEIRA	Unknown	1	0	0	Low
SANGA							
		MAOGA	1207	1	0	0	Low
		SELENGE	2949	1	1	0	Low