

Questions sent by Friends of the Earth US, JA! and the Business and Human Rights Resource Centre

Letter to ExxonMobil

Dear Sir/ Madam

Greetings from the Business & Human Rights Resource Centre. We are writing to invite Exxon Mobil to respond to various [reports](#) and [media articles](#) which allege that several transnational corporations' including yourself are involved in serious violations of human rights in Cabo Delgado, Mozambique. We attach hereto a summary of a report by JA! (Justiça Ambiental/ Friends of the Earth Mozambique) which makes some of those allegations together with a number of questions below received from JA which we would like to give you an opportunity to respond to.

We would like to give you the opportunity to respond to these allegations before we draw international attention to this article by publishing it in a forthcoming issue of our Weekly Update newsletter.

About the Resource Centre

[Business & Human Rights Resource Centre](#) is an independent non-profit organization that promotes greater awareness and informed discussion about human rights issues relating to business. Our website covers over 8000 companies. It links to reports about positive initiatives by companies as well as reports about concerns that have been raised by civil society. For further details, please see the ["About us" section](#) of our website. Below is list of the questions and allegations we received from JA for your attention.

Question 1:

The development of the Afungi LNG Park has caused We have seen the development of t park cause mass human rights violations, forced removals of hundreds of families from their homes, farmers have lost their land and fishermen have lost all access to the sea. These communities are literally starving. This project has already proven to be irreversibly disastrous for communities, as has been reported on in several respectable news outlets, and the climate impacts of the projects directly violate the Paris Agreement.

Furthermore, the "community consultation" process has been a sham. When Anadarko, and now Total representatives visit communities for these consultation meetings, they are accompanied by a military entourage. This along with the presence of leaders who have a beneficial relationship with the company means that community members are too afraid to speak out and dissent, even if they disagree.

While Anadarko and Total have undertaken the removals and community engagement process, the Coral LNG and Rovuma LNG projects are as responsible as them for the impacts, considering the park is imperative for all three projects' operations.

Please consider before answering: We are aware that Anadarko and Eni together contracted one Environmental Impact Assessment in 2014 by Impacto/ ERM, which has since been updated. We are also aware that construction of the onshore facilities were halted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We emphasise that these facilities will be utilised as much by Coral LNG and Rovuma LNG as by Mozambique LNG.

There has been a large amount of information in international media about the relocations of people and their loss of livelihoods. Furthermore, in June, Over 50 people sent an email to several executives at ExxonMobil with a letter signed by over 400 individuals and organisations, written by Friends of the Earth International and JA!/Friends of the Earth Mozambique, detailing the human rights violations and climate issues of the project.

- **Considering that Exxon Mobil is aware of the destructive impacts of the Rovuma Coral FLNG project, why is it still continuing with the project?**
- **Does Exxon Mobil conduct its own ongoing monitoring of impacts on the ground, beyond the assessments already carried out and signed off by the Mozambican government? Or does Eni rely on the reports from Total on this issue?**
- **How has Exxon Mobil addressed the complaints outlined above of impacted local communities?**

Question 2:

The development of gas Coral LNG has promised to provide many jobs for community members in Cabo Delgado. However, thus far, even though the Afungi LNG Park has been in construction for three year, the only jobs created for Mozambicans have been menial - cooks, cleaners and basic construction workers.

- **Why is this the case?**
- **When will Exxon Mobil actually give this promised high-level employment to Mozambicans and what plans does it have for skills training? Please detail.**

We would be able to add your full response in our Weekly Update if we receive it by **Friday, 26 March 2021 at noon (CAT)**. We can link to a response in the form of a PDF, Word document or web-link, and would be grateful if the date is clearly indicated on it. If Exxon Mobil does not provide a response, we will indicate in the Weekly Update that we invited it to respond, but that it did not do so. Your response or non-response will be permanently registered in all relevant sections of our website.

A chart featuring past company responses in our Weekly Updates can be accessed [here](#). Over 73% of the companies invited to respond have done so. We indicate at the top of each company section on our website the company's response rate to human rights concerns – your company's response or non-response to this invitation will be included in calculating the rate for your company on our website.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you require any further information or if you need additional time to respond, - we can be reached by email see contact details below.

Yours sincerely.

Response from ExxonMobil

March 25, 2021

ExxonMobil Statement re. Business & Human Rights Resource Centre's March 2, 2021 Invitation to Respond

- ExxonMobil considers the allegations to be without merit.

- ExxonMobil condemns human rights violations in any form and has actively expressed these views to governments and stakeholders in countries in which our affiliates operate around the world.
- ExxonMobil actively promotes respect for human rights, and we comply with all applicable laws and regulations.
- Around the world, ExxonMobil aims to be a preferred business partner, neighbor, employer and supplier. We maintain a corporate-wide commitment to safeguarding the health and security of our employees and the public, responsibly managing our social impacts, and upholding respect for human rights in our operations.
- Our practices reflect the spirit and intent of the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights and are guided by elements of the United Nations' Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.
- ExxonMobil believes that early planning and engagement with communities are critical components for successful projects and operations.
- Our stakeholder engagement process provides an opportunity for community input to be considered, as appropriate, in the planning process for projects and operations.
- Our approach also requires all activities and operations to include a process for collecting grievances from communities and workforces.
- Information regarding ExxonMobil's policies and activities can be found on our website www.exxonmobil.com.