

Angola

September 2021

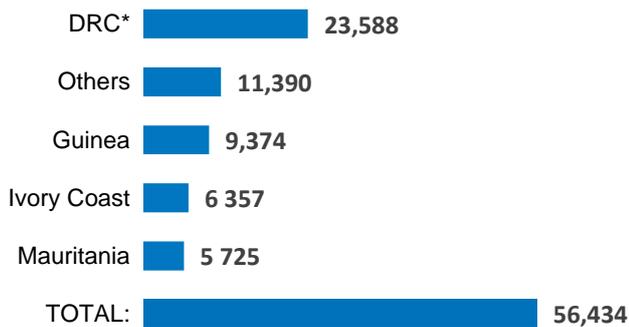
In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, UNHCR and partners have continued to work **to include refugees and asylum seekers in the national health and socio-economic responses** throughout 2021.

Strengthening local integration is the best solution to displacement in Angola. Less than 10 per cent of refugees living in the Lôvua settlement indicated the intention to return to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

Protection outreach for refugees and asylum-seekers has expanded. Ten helplines are in operation, as are two refugee community centres in Luanda city centre and outskirts.

POPULATION OF CONCERN BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN (AS OF 31 AUGUST)

56,434

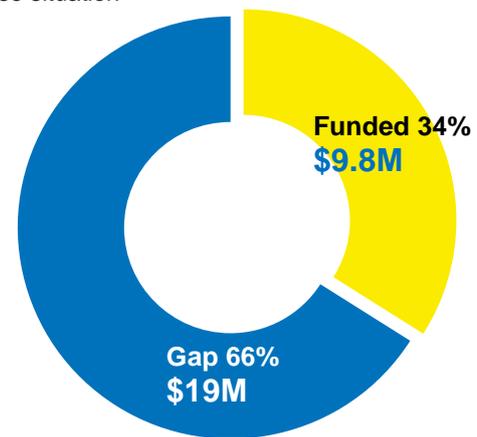


*The number of Congolese refugees and asylum-seekers includes 13,933 people of concern registered prior to 2017, who are part of the regular caseload.

FUNDING (AS OF 13 SEPTEMBER)

USD 28.8 million

Requested for Angola's regular programme and the Congolese situation



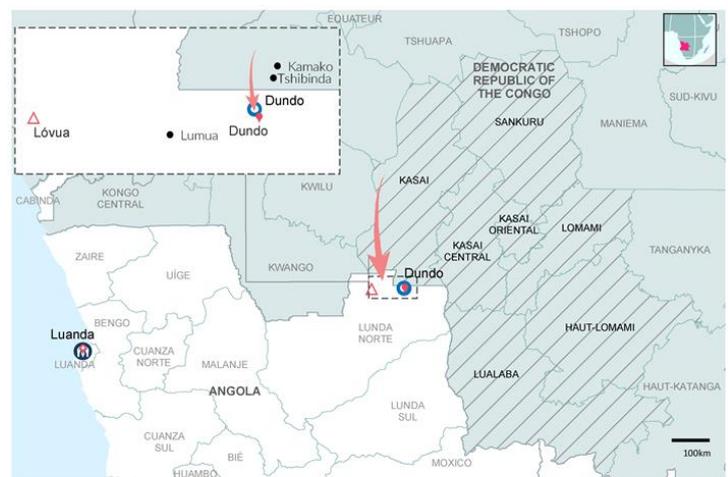
UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff: 42

- 21 National Staff
- 11 International Staff
- 8 Affiliated Workforce
- 1 International UNV
- 1 National UNV

Offices:

- 1 Branch Office in Luanda
- 1 Field Office in Dundo



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
Create date: 22 Jan 2018. Sources: UNHCRS, UNCS, Angolan Government

- Areas affected by outbreak of violence since August 2016
- UNHCR Country Office
- UNHCR Field Office
- Refugee location
- Refugee settlement
- Congolese refugees

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

Humanitarian and development partners are supporting the Government of Angola (GoA) to provide protection and assistance to refugees and asylum-seekers in Lôvua settlement and in urban areas.

In 2021 UNHCR's partners include: Audi de Desenvolvimento de Povo para Povo (ADDP), Norwegian Church Aid (NCA), World Vision International, Igreja Evangélica Irmãos de Angola (IEIA), Jesuit Refugee Services (JRS), Dom Bosco.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

As of August 2020, the refugee population in Angola consists of 56,434 people of concern, of whom 9,030 (16 per cent) arrived in 2017 due to the Kasai Emergency. Some 84 per cent of persons of concern in Angola are based in urban areas (49,682 people), most of whom are in the capital, Luanda. An additional 6,752 refugees and asylum-seekers from DRC reside in Lôvua settlement.

Protection and Registration

- Registration activities in Lôvua settlement have continued throughout 2021, in accordance with the COVID-19 preparedness plan.
- A protection assessment in Lôvua conducted in April 2021 covered 1,310 households (6,566 people) with the aim of identifying protection risks and vulnerabilities, strengthening the case management and referral systems, identifying gaps in services and programmes and supporting the search for solutions.
- Rwandese, Liberian and Sierra Leonean refugees affected by the cessation clause are kept informed of the process, their rights and integration options through protection profiling. Some 1,323 individuals have been profiled in Luanda and Lunda Norte provinces in 2021.¹
- Activities to build the capacity of the national authorities, partners and refugees have been ongoing throughout 2021. Key events include: a two-day workshop on statelessness for civil registrar officials in Luanda; a lecture on international protection and refugee law for civil society organizations and refugees; protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) training for key partners staff and refugee community leaders in Lôvua settlement; and a workshop on UNHCR's mandate and humanitarian communications for the media.
- UNHCR advocates with the Government to improve registration and documentation services for refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas, and provides technical support to the national body overseeing refugee issues, the National Commission for Refugees (CNR).
- UNHCR conducted regular border monitoring missions to six crossing points between Angola and DRC to verify protection issues and update the contingency plan.
- Some 56 per cent of children born in Angola and living in the Lôvua settlement were found to be lacking birth certificates during an assessment in April 2021. Two mobile birth registration units were organized to address this, and some 413 children have been registered since April. Additional mobile brigades for birth registration and documentation will occur on a regular basis.
- Protection outreach and needs assessments have been expanded into new districts in Luanda and Lunda Norte, to enhance UNHCR's ability to identify and respond to people in need of counselling and assistance. Following the most recent assessment, household and clothing items were distributed to families with persons with specific needs in the outskirts of Luanda, and in Calumbo and Chitato Districts in Lunda Norte. UNHCR and partners have also stepped-up food and material assistance for the most vulnerable people, including grants for rent and medicines.

Food Security

- Due to COVID-19 preventive measures, food ration distributions in Lôvua settlement have occurred every two months instead of the monthly distributions carried out before the onset of the pandemic. Distributions have been re-designed to prevent overcrowding at distribution sites and ensure physical distancing, and personal protective equipment (PPE) is provided to all staff and community workers involved.

¹ Angola declared a cessation clause for refugees from Rwanda, Liberia and Sierra Leone in December 2020. Subsequent registration began in 2021, with UNHCR's support. A cessation clause acknowledges that international refugee protection is no longer required, so refugee status is withdrawn, and related rights and benefits come to an end.

Health

- UNHCR works closely with partners and the national authorities to guarantee access to health facilities and services for people of concern in a non-discriminatory manner during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Refugees are included in the national vaccination plan. UNHCR, with the UN Resident Coordinator and WHO, advocates with the authorities to ensure that people of concern are comprehensively included in the vaccine rollout, as well as other social safety nets.
- UNHCR supported a mass COVID-19 testing exercise led by the health authorities in Lunda Norte, in which 4,033 refugees living in the Lôvua settlement were tested for COVID-19.
- UNHCR is strengthening health services and systems in Lôvua settlement and improving referral mechanisms. Health workers in the settlement received training on the identification and referral of cases, and on conducting COVID-19 risk awareness campaigns.

Education

- Following UNHCR's advocacy, a new directive was issued in Lunda Norte to expand recognized documentation for national school enrolment to include refugee documentation issued by UNHCR or the authorities. Some 110 educational officials were trained by UNHCR to ensure the new directive will be enforced.

Shelter

- Common structures in Lôvua settlement were refurbished in line with the COVID-19 contingency plan to serve as quarantine and isolation centres for suspected cases among refugees. An additional 40 refugee housing units were set up to serve as isolation centres for suspected cases of COVID-19.
- Some 151 refugee housing units were set up to shelter the most vulnerable households in Lôvua settlement, including people with specific needs and gender-based violence (GBV) survivors.

Water and Sanitation

- Between January and June 2021, some 198 pit latrines, 355 showers, and 163 sanitary pits were constructed in Lôvua settlement. To improve the quality of water in the settlement, ultra-filtration equipment was installed in all four solar powered boreholes.
- Two villages hosting refugees in Lunda Norte were supported with pit latrines for 59 households, and solar powered water pumps for boreholes in each village. The boreholes are serving some 714 people from the refugee and host communities.

Livelihoods

- Agricultural inputs and technical support benefitted 250 refugee households.
- Some 200 refugee farmers received practical agricultural training to improve their food production.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

UNHCR is grateful for donor contributions to the Angola operation.

Angola | Canada | France | Germany | Japan | Luxembourg | Norway | Private donors | Spain | UN Programme on HIV/AIDS | United States of America

UNHCR is also grateful for unearmarked contributions, which allow UNHCR critical flexibility in how best to reach persons of in the greatest need and at the greatest risk.

CONTACTS

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LINKS

[Global Focus](#) | [Operational Data Portal](#)