

5 October 2019

QUICK FACTS

Response start
date: 1966

Total
registered
refugees:
15,190



CONTEXT

The Mayukwayukwa refugee settlement encompasses 16,16700 hectares. It was established in 1966 and is located in Western Province of Zambia, about 75km away from Kaoma District. As of 30 September 2019, Mayukwayukwa settlement had a population of 15,190 refugees and “former refugees” from Rwanda and Angola, Burundi, Somalia, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

The settlement has been divided into two parts: the Refugee Settlement area, which is divided into sectors 1-28 and the local integration area for former refugees, which is 10.512 hectares with a population of 1,977 household for “former” Angolan refugees. They remain under the management of the Department of Resettlement (in the Office of Vice President). Some 512 households have settled in the local integration area which is situated about 15 km away from the refugee settlement. Generally, the gravel road network is poor and requires attention.

The Government of Zambia through the Office of the Commissioner for Refugees (COR) in the Ministry of Home Affairs, has manages the settlement with the support of UNHCR and other implementing partners since its establishment in 1966. In line with its mandate, UNHCR supports the Government of Zambia to ensure refuge’ protection, access to basic services and explore avenues for durable solutions. It operates in coordination with Government line Ministries (Ministry of General Education (MoGE), Department of Water Resource Development (DWRD), Ministry of Health (MOH), and Ministry of Community Development and Social Services (MCDSS). With the roll-out of the CRRF in 2018, UNHCR’s area of responsibility has been narrowed to core protection, provision of core relief items and durable solutions. Other UN development agencies will gradually step in to deliver basic services as per their mandate, in coordination with Government line ministries. In the Local Integration area UNHCR, will, however, continue to support individual documentation of former refugees in the frame of socio-economic integration.

PROTECTION

- **Border monitoring and detention** are coordinated by MHA in close collaboration with the District Joint Operations Committee (DJOC).
- **Registration:** The responsibility for registration and documentation of refugees and asylum seekers on Zambian territory rests with the Government of Zambia in close collaboration with UNHCR. Registration is undertaken in proGres V4. Continuous and timely registration of persons of concern affords protection against refoulement, access to basic human rights, and family re-unification of refugees, identification of those in need of special assistance through the quantification and assessment of needs.
- **Refugee status determination:** Refugee status determination is conducted by Kaoma District Joint Operations Committees (DJOC) in line with the 1951 Refugee Convention and the 1969 OAU Convention. The Refugee Status Determination Committee is supported in this function by the respective local DJOC. UNHCR has an observer status in the Committees.
- **Persons with specific needs:** In line with UNHCR's AGD-based programming, UNHCR continues to identify and assist people with specific needs (i.e. the elderly, mentally and physically disabled, and all children at risk) in Mayukwayukwa, with a focus on ensuring their unhindered access to education and health facilities, addressing protection and developmental needs for the children, guided by the principle of the best interests of children. UNHCR, in partnership with MCDSS has identified, assessed and assisted persons of concern at heightened risk of violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation, fire victims, UASCs, children with disabilities, and child survivors of violence and/or sexual and gender-based violence from the beginning of this year.
- **SGBV prevention and response:** UNHCR continues its multi-sectoral response to SGBV in close coordination with MCDSS, MoH, the Zambian Police, the Judiciary and Government authorities, as well as the refugee community leaders and Community action teams. Community sensitization sessions were increased to prevent SGBV occurrence and to guide and facilitate survivors' access to the legal and health referral system including psycho-social support available in Mayukwayukwa Refugee Settlement. UNHCR has extended the awareness raising on sexual exploitation and abuse of children to school heads and teachers in the settlement.
- **Resettlement:** With the 2019 resettlement target set at 1,100 individuals and 1,200 for 2018, UNHCR Zambia's target remains the highest in the Southern African region. Following the easing of the restrictions of the US refugee policy, resulting in increased resettlement quotas and Zambia's commitments under the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework, it is expected that the resettlement target will continue to remain high, with resettlement case identification and processing focusing mainly on Meheba and Mayukwayukwa Refugee Settlement and the urban areas in and around Lusaka.

LIVELIHOODS

Livelihoods activities are supported in the settlement to contribute to the local food economy and ultimately attain self-reliance for refugees. However, restrictive employment and mobility laws hinder the early attainment of self-reliance of settlement-based refugees. Carita Czech Republic, the livelihoods implementing partner in Mayukwayukwa Refugee Settlement, facilitated training of 50 refugees and host community members on how to start their own businesses and how to enhance agricultural production and enterprise diversification. The training was attended by, 36 -Congolese, three- Rwandese 1 Burundian, four Zambians and six Angolans.

Main challenges: Inadequate funding for livelihood projects and programmes especially for agricultural, livestock and fisheries activities pose as a major constraint.

LOCAL INTEGRATION

In December 2011, the Government of Zambia made a pledge at the ministerial meeting commemorating the 60th anniversary of the 1951 Convention to facilitate the securing of a durable solution through local integration for some 10,000 Angolan refugees who have been living in Zambia for over four decades, some of whom have been born and brought up in Zambia as second or third generation refugees. In January 2014, the Government of Zambia and UNHCR launched the Strategic Framework for the local integration of former refugees in Zambia, an integration programme that sought to integrate up to 10 000 former refugees from Angola and 4,000 from Rwandan into Zambian society between 2014-2016. The majority of the beneficiaries of the program were residing in the two refugee settlements, Mayukwayukwa and Meheba.

The Strategic Framework had three main pillars: access to legal documentation (a resident permit providing them with a legal status, freedom of movement and access to rights), access to land for living and farming for both former refugees and members of the host community and social integration through access to government services and programs. The socio-economic pillar of the local integration programme was officially handed over by the Government of Zambia and UNHCR, to the Department of Resettlement, under the Office of the Vice President, and the UNDP). The documentation for persons of concern in the local integration such as Residence permits, alien cards has continued under the auspices of COR and UNHCR, while socio economic-related activities are being managed by the Office of the Vice President through the Department of Resettlement. Land allocation for agriculture purposes is an ongoing activity.

UNHCR and the Office of the Commissioner for Refugees were allocated the legal pillar. By 31 January 2019, 1,170 residence permits have been issued and delivered to former Angolan refugees in Zambia, and an additional 11,959 would be eligible for local integration. Humanitarian assistance was phased out, but very little development funding could be obtained to enable sustainable socio-economic, and environmental development, even though the government of Zambia strives to include the settlements in their district plans. Utilizing a comprehensive refugee response approach, UNHCR and the Government of Zambia strive to ensure full inclusion of the former refugees into national services and strengthen the available services through multi-stakeholder support.

Main challenges: The main outstanding gaps include rehabilitation of delapidated infrastructure that was constructed 40-50 years' ago, access to social protection for an ageing population, more than 1,000, extremely vulnerable due to physical and mental disabilities, and opportunities for economic empowerment and building of resilience of the youth. Only a small number of those who are eligible have been issued with Residence Permits and Temporary Permits respectively. Bureaucratic processes and limited funding delayed timely processing of documents.

AGENCY	PARTNERS
UN	UNHCR
GOVERNMENT	<i>Office of the Commissioner for Refugees/Ministry of Home Affairs, Zambia Police, DJOC, District Councils, Zambia National Service, Ministry of Community Development and Social Services, Ministry of Health, Ministry of General Education, Ministry of Defense/Zambia National Service, Ministry of Commerce and Cooperatives, Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock and Department of Forestry, Ministry of Agriculture.</i>
NGOs	<i>Africa Action Help, Caritas Czech Republic</i>

