

Zambia

16 April 2018

3,053 Congolese refugees (1,078 households) have been relocated to Mantapala Refugee Settlement from Kenani Transit Centre since January 2018.

The Inter-Agency Regional Refugee Response Plan (Regional RRP) requirements for Zambia are **USD 74.2 million** to respond adequately to the needs of Congolese refugees and the host communities.

Eight boreholes have been drilled so far to provide water in Mantapala Refugee Settlement. This is expected to improve the water supply situation in the settlement which already has five boreholes.

KEY FIGURES

41,950

Total number of registered Congolese refugees and asylum-seekers in Zambia.

76%

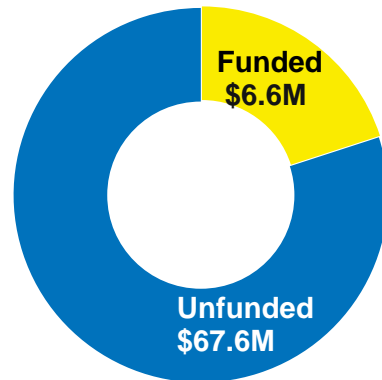
Of Congolese refugees in Zambia are women and children.

76,000

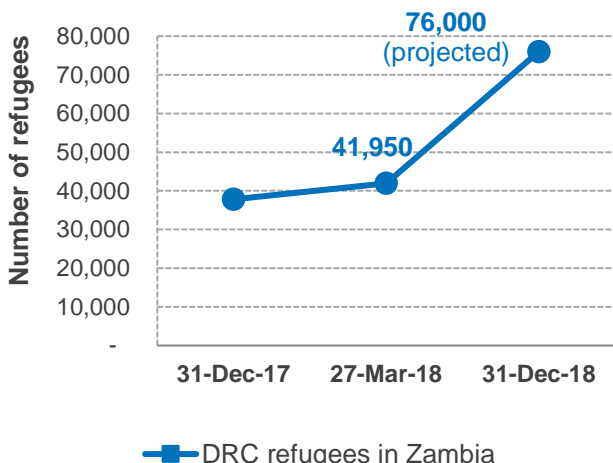
Projected number of Congolese refugees in Zambia by 31 December 2018

INTER-AGENCY FUNDING REQUIRED FOR THE CONGOLESE REFUGEE RESPONSE IN ZAMBIA IN 2018

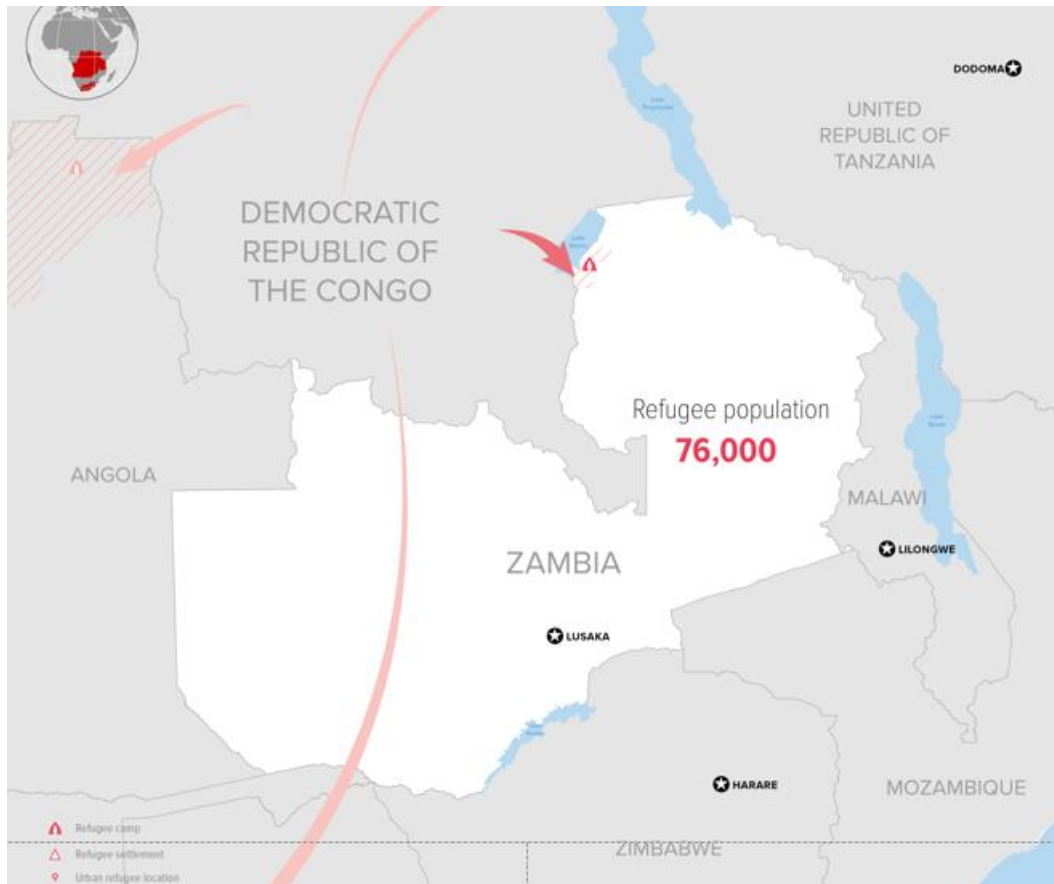
USD 74,245,700



POPULATION TRENDS



The Government, UNHCR and partners relocating Congolese refugees from Kenani Transit Centre to the newly established Mantapala Refugee Settlement. UNHCR/B.Mulenga.



76,000 is the projected number of Congolese refugees in Zambia by 31 December 2018

Operational Context

A total of 20,270 Congolese refugees have arrived Zambia between 1 January 2017 and 16 April 2018, bringing the total number of registered Congolese refugees in Zambia to 41,950 (12,895 households), of which 5,324 have been identified as vulnerable. Of the 20,270 new arrivals, Nchelenge hosts 15,171 individuals (4,916 households), of which 12,118 are currently at Kenani Transit Centre and 3,053 have been relocated to Mantapala Refugee Settlement. In Lusaka, new arrivals of Congolese refugees amount to 2,905 individuals, while in Meheba and Mayukwayukwa there are 2,148 and 46 respectively.

Although the inflow of new refugee arrivals has declined in recent weeks, the operation continues to ensure that preparedness measures are in place in order to receive refugees arriving through other areas, namely through North-Western and the Copperbelt provinces.

Achievements



PROTECTION

Achievements and Impact

- Within the context of emergency preparedness, UNHCR and the Office of the Commissioner for Refugees (COR) conducted a Refugee Status Determination (RSD) training from 26 - 27 March for members of the District Joint Operations Committee (DJOC) from the Copperbelt and North Western Province. Among other areas, the training focused on Refugee Law and the roll-out of the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) in Zambia.
- Relocation from Kenani Transit Centre to Mantapala Refugee Settlement continues. A total of 3,053 individuals (1,078 families) have been relocated to the new settlement so far.
- UNHCR conducted a leaders' meeting in Kenani Transit Centre so that they can assist in the distribution of food and core relief items (CRIs). The purpose of the distribution committee is to increase community representation and participation during planning and distribution of CRIs and food assistance.
- Following the recently established community feedback channels aimed at increasing community engagement and accountability, UNHCR is currently receiving individual complaints. So far, most of the feedback received relates to the insufficient communication with refugees during distribution of relief items. UNHCR is looking into the issue.
- Five unaccompanied children were reunited with their parents in the DRC through successful tracing by ICRC.
- Psychosocial counselling of 27 children was conducted in Kenani Transit Centre. Among the 27 children, six were unaccompanied children while three were separated minors who were referred to ICRC for family reunification with their parents in the DRC.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Against the backdrop of a need to strengthen male involvement in programmes preventing and combating sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and have multi-functional teams (MFTs) in both Kenani Transit Centre and Mantapala Refugee Settlement, two workshops will take place in Nchelenge at the end of April to explore these matters.
- There is need to enhance sensitization during registration to avoid families deliberately splitting with a view to receiving more assistance.
- The bad state of the road to Mantapala Refugee Settlement as a result of seasonal rains is affecting relocation of refugees and generally delaying the delivery of humanitarian assistance and construction materials.



EDUCATION

Achievements and Impact

- Selection of French-speaking teachers from the community has begun in Mantapala Refugee Settlement, so that formal education can begin.
- Fifty animators were trained in psychosocial support at Kenani Transit Centre's child friendly space. Additionally, 25 animators were trained in disability management. As a result, five animators (caregivers) have been assigned to monitor parents/guardians who care for children with disabilities.
- Clearing of land for construction of a school in Mantapala Refugee Settlement has been completed. Excavation and footing will commence in the coming weeks?
- Excavation at a youth friendly corner in Mantapala Refugee Settlement has been completed and is awaiting delivery of construction materials.
- Play materials, netballs, footballs, a USB radio and clocks for children play sessions have been delivered to CFS in Mantapala Refugee Settlement.



HEALTH

Achievements and Impact

- The vaccination of children and distribution of mosquito nets and soap to refugees was conducted successfully in Mantapala Refugee Settlement.
- Cholera preparedness and response training of health staff in Chiengi, Kaputa, Nsumbu, Mpulungu and Nchelenge was conducted by MSF. Cholera kits have been prepositioned in all the border districts.
- Land for construction of a permanent health centre in Mantapala Refugee Settlement has been allocated. Clearing of land will commence soon.



FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

Achievements and Impact

- Restoration of the distribution of food at full ration begun during the first week of April. The full ration will be available up to July. In February and March, food distribution was reduced to half ration as a result of lack of funding

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- About 750 registered individuals did not show up for food distribution in March, an increase from about 200 in the previous distributions. The registration team is monitoring the trend.
- Food from World Vision for the supplementary feeding programme for moderate acute malnourished children under-five-years-old as well as for malnourished pregnant and lactating women has been depleted since 15 March.



WATER AND SANITATION

Achievements and Impact

- The construction of eight boreholes in Mantapala Refugee Settlement has been completed and are awaiting water quality assessment. Currently, five boreholes are in use in the settlement.
- A total of nine temporary communal latrines have been constructed in Mantapala Refugee Settlement.
- Mobilization for construction of household latrines has continued in Mantapala Refugee Settlement and World Vision has continued with household latrine construction in Mantapala Refugee Settlement. Oxfam and NCA have commenced acquisition of materials and construction of more household latrines.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Lack of access to identified drilling sites due to flooding and lack of access roads in Mantapala Refugee Settlement remains a challenge.
- Ground and surface water flooding is slowing down construction of WASH facilities.



SHELTER AND NFIS

Achievements and Impact

- Total of 1,350 plots have been demarcated in Mantapala Refugee Settlement and have been allocated to refugee households.



CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT

Achievements and Impact

- COR, in collaboration with UNHCR, coordinates partners in the implementation of humanitarian activities at Kenani Transit Centre and Mantapala Refugee Settlement. Weekly and bi-weekly co-ordination meetings in Nchelenge and in Lusaka, respectively, are ongoing and co-chaired by COR/UNHCR.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The lack of means of communications such as phone network coverage and access roads is also hampering the delivery of humanitarian services in Mantapala.



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE

Achievements and Impact

- On 9 April, the Nchelenge-based Livelihoods Sector Committee attended the Provincial Crisis Committee on Refugees meeting held in Mansa District, chaired by the Provincial Permanent Secretary. During the meeting, the Socio-economic Assessment Report was presented and the findings indicated that the rural economy of Mantapala Refugee Settlement is largely based on agriculture; the majority of the local population only meet their survival threshold and not livelihood threshold; economic activities are highly curtailed due to current conditions of the access road; and access to social services by the local population is limited.
- The technical meeting involving UNHCR, UNICEF and UNFPA was held in Mansa on 10 April during which it was proposed: i) The allocation of farming land for each refugee households to be relocated to Mantapala Refugee Settlement. ii) Conducting an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), Soil and Hydrological Surveys and iii) Development of the Nchelenge District Integrated Development Plan.
- UNHCR and COR have jointly identified 16 lead farmers (12 refugees and four from host community) who are already conducting gardening in Mantapala Refugee Settlement. The lead farmers will be trained on agricultural extension services and will mobilize and identify 700 farmers who will initially be supported with agricultural inputs.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The slow pace of the refugee settlement development, including access to land, markets, roads and other infrastructure, is delaying livelihood activities.



LOGISTICS

Achievements and Impact

- Jointly undertaken by the Government, UNHCR, IOM and partners, the relocation of Congolese refugees from Kenani Transit Centre to Mantapala Refugee Settlement is on-going. The aim is to ultimately relocate all the refugees from the transit centre to the new refugee settlement, both located in Nchelenge District.
- The Government has announced that it will work on the main access road to Mantapala Refugee Settlement as soon as possible to ensure that the relocation can continue. A budget has been approved by the Road Development Authority.
- The ZNS is opening up access roads in Mantapala Refugee Settlement. However, the rains have slowed down the process.
- UNHCR, in collaboration with COR has continued to transport refugees from villages within the Chiengi/DRC border area to Kenani Transit Centre. New arrivals that enter through other locations in Luapula, Copperbelt and North-western provinces are relocated to Meheba and Mayukwayukwa, with a few in Northern Province, such as Kaputa, transferred to Kenani Transit Centre.

Working in partnership - CRRF

- The refugee response is led and coordinated by the Government of the Republic of Zambia. Under the Refugee Act ([GOVERNMENT OF ZAMBIA ACT No. 1 of 2017](#)), the Commissioner of Refugees (COR), within the Ministry of Home Affairs is, mandated to deal with refugee matters. UNHCR is the primary interlocutor and lead agency for all refugee matters and UNHCR is supporting and coordinating through the [Refugee Coordination Model](#) the response efforts in support of the Government. To respond to the Congolese refugee emergency in a holistic and coordinated manner, the Government of the Republic of Zambia has constituted Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) composed of key line ministries.
- With regard to planning for 2019, UNHCR-Zambia invited a wide variety of partners - including its main government counterpart, the Office of the Commissioner for Refugees, line ministries, funding partners, NGOs and refugee leaders - to take part in planning consultations for Zambia's country operational plan. The objective

is to ensure ownership and active participation of all partners in the roll-out of the CRRF in line with the multi-stakeholder approach of comprehensive responses to refugees.

- Some of the past achievements in applying comprehensive responses in Zambia include: i) the involvement of local leaders in the design of Mantapala Refugee Settlement in the Luapula Province (North) to ensure that new infrastructure for social services (such as schools and health centres) benefit refugees and host communities; ii) the Government's allocation of land for refugees in an area inhabited by local communities, to promote peaceful co-existence; and iii) a new progressive legislative framework for refugee protection, which came into effect before the country started applying the CRRF in 2017. The 2017 Refugee Act enables the Government to implement a settlement approach, grant refugees a variety of rights and access to services, and facilitates permanent residency and naturalization.
- Moving forward, under the leadership of the Commissioner for Refugees (COR) - Ministry of Home Affairs, UNHCR is assisting the GRZ to develop a roadmap that will set the strategic direction and formalize a more comprehensive refugee response in Zambia. To this end, COR has recently recruited a CRRF focal person in his office, who will assist the Commissioner and partners to lead the process.

Partners in the response

Government

Ministry of Home Affairs (Office of the Commissioner for Refugees)

Ministry of Health

Ministry of General Education

Ministry of Community Development and Social Services

Nchelenge District Administration

Chiengi District Administration

United Nations

RCO - UN Resident Coordinator's Office

UNDSS - United Nations Department for Safety and Security

UNHCR - United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

UNICEF - United Nations Children's Fund

WFP - World Food Programme

UNFPA - United Nations Population Fund

FAO - Food and Agriculture Organization

IOM - International Organization for Migration

Local and international NGOs/CSOs

Action Aid

AAHZ – Action Africa Help Zambia

CRS – Catholic Relief Services (in-coming)

CARE International

Caritas Czech Republic

Lutheran World Federation

MSF – Spain

NCA – Norwegian Church Aid/Alliance Action

OXFAM

Save the Children

WVI – World Vision International

Plan International

Self Help Africa

Zambia Red Cross Society/IFRC

People in Need (PIN)

Agencies are very grateful for the financial support provided by donors, who have contributed to their activities with un-earmarked and broadly earmarked funds, as well as for those who have contributed directly to the operations in Zambia. Despite the generous contributions of partners, significant funding challenges remain to address the needs of refugees and their host communities. **Special thanks to the Central Emergency Response Fund** for the contribution of **US\$6,559,772** for the Congolese Emergency situation in Zambia.

Financial requirements by agency:

REGIONAL & ZAMBIA REFUGEE RESPONSE PLAN: A Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRRP) for the DRC situation, which covers Angola, Burundi, Central African Republic, Rwanda, Republic of Congo, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia, has been completed. The RRRP seeks over **US\$504 million** to respond to the protection and life-saving assistance of Congolese refugees in the region.

The country-level chapter covering Zambia has financial requirements of over **US\$74 million**, with UNHCR's component being US\$33,449,067. These two documents, along other key information on the Congolese refugee emergency response in Zambia can be accessed online at <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/country/zmb>.

CONTACTS:

Abdon Mawere, Commissioner for Refugees, Ministry of Home Affairs.

Email: abbie.m@hotmail.com.

Janet Rogan, UN Resident Co-coordinator in Zambia.

Email: janet.rogan@one.un.org.

Pierrine Aylara, UNHCR Representative.

Email: aylara@unhcr.org.

Kelvin Shimo, UNHCR Public Information Associate in Zambia.

Email: shimo@unhcr.org; Tel: +260-211-0977862008; Mob: +260 979585832

Markku Aikomus, Senior Regional External Relations Officer, UNHCR Regional Representation for Southern Africa (Pretoria, South Africa).

Email: aikomus@unhcr.org.

www.unhcr.org | [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#)

www.unhcr.org **Twitter:** @unhcrZambia, Facebook: <https://facebook.com/unhcrzambia/>

<http://www.unhcr.org/zambia.html>, <http://reporting.unhcr.org/node/10322>