

INTER-AGENCY OPERATIONAL UPDATE

Zambia

June 2018 Update

225 Congolese refugees arrived in Zambia during the month of June, bringing the total number of new arrivals from the DRC, since 1 January 2018 to 30 June so far in 2018 to 4,095 individuals.

By the end of June, 444 children were accessing the UNICEF-funded Child Friendly Spaces (CFS) at Mantapala Refugee Settlement on a daily basis.

A cumulative total of 10,337 persons, have been relocated from Kenani Transit Centre to Mantapala Refugee Settlement, bringing to an end the relocation programme.

KEY FIGURES

41,407

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

4,897

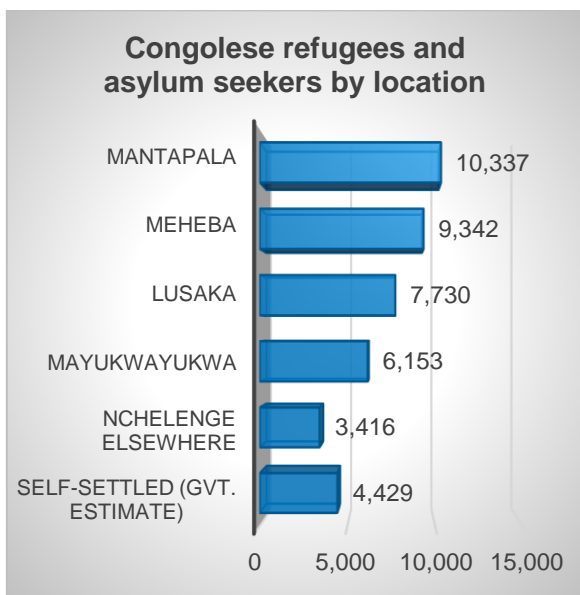
Identified at registration as persons with specific needs.

75%

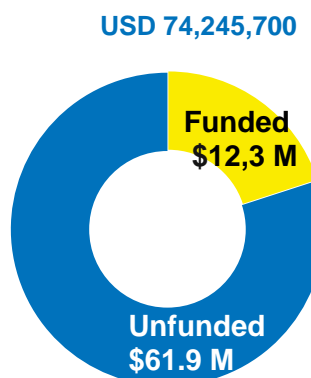
Of the registered population are women and children.



To ensure hygiene, Save the Children has placed wash-basins in various areas of the Mantapala Refugee Settlement, especially near toilets
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INTER-AGENCY FUNDING REQUIRED FOR THE CONGOLESE REFUGEE RESPONSE IN ZAMBIA IN 2018



Operational Context

As of 30 June, there were a total of 41,407 Congolese active and biometrically registered in Zambia comprising 38,712 refugees and 2,695 asylum-seekers. Some 53 per cent are between the ages 0 – 17 years old, 4,897 identified as vulnerable and 75% percent were women and children. Between 1 January 2017 and 30 June 2018, a total of 21,042 Congolese arrived in Zambia. Of the new arrivals, 15,440 have been registered in Nchelenge (Mantapala and elsewhere), 3,304 in Lusaka, 2,250 in Meheba and 48 in Mayukwayukwa. In the past few months, the inflow of new arrivals from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) has decreased. Furthermore, the total population of active Congolese refugees in Nchelenge District has decreased due to the inactivation of the individuals who missed three consecutive months of food distribution. However, even if the inflow of new arrivals has declined, the operation continues to ensure that preparedness measures are put in place or remain in place, in view of another possible large influx of Congolese refugees, especially with uncertainties surrounding the electoral process in the DRC planned for December 2018.



In Mantapala Refugee Settlement, the refugees have access to clean drinking water/©UNHCR.Bruce Mulenga.

Achievements



Achievements and Impact

- During the month of June, relocation of refugees from Kenani Transit Centre to Mantapala Refugee Settlement was completed. Consequently, all support activities at Kenani Transit Centre have ceased. Through inter-agency support, the relocation of Congolese refugees from Kenani Transit Centre to Mantapala Refugee Settlement started on 20 January 2018, resulting in the relocation of 10,337 individuals over a period of six months.
 - According to the Office of the Commissioner for Refugees (COR) in the Ministry of Home Affairs, the relocation of all refugees from Kenani Transit Centre does not mean that it will be closed. Its assets – such as buildings - will be fenced off to be used in future, should another influx from the DRC, take place. Other important assets and infrastructure, such as boreholes, a clinic, community schools, departure and food distribution centres, will be used by the local community. Part of the transit centre which is at the lakeside will be turned into a recreation park for the local population to use.
 - As part of preparedness and to monitor the situation of new arrivals, UNHCR in Solwezi and Nchelenge, working with the Government, continued to undertake border monitoring missions, with findings indicating that Congolese refugees have continued to cross into Zambia from the DRC, though, in very small numbers.
 - During the month of June, 225 Congolese refugees arrived to Zambia through different entry points, bringing the cumulative total of new arrivals since January 2018 to 4,095. The cumulative number of new arrivals from the DRC from 1 January 2017 to 30 June 2018 now stands at 21,042.
 - New arrivals in other parts of the country, mostly Northern Province and Lusaka Province, continued to be biometrically registered and to undergo individual refugee status determination and relocation to Meheba or Mayukwayukwa refugee settlement, after being granted refugee status. Despite limited reception capacity, especially in Meheba Refugee Settlement and Lusaka, the new arrivals were provided with food, shelter and health services while awaiting status determination and land allocation in the settlement.
 - In Mantapala Refugee Settlement, UNHCR conducted verification of unaccompanied children and foster families, in order to replicate the ISIBINDI model, a community based child protection mechanism that attends to psycho-social counselling as well as the recreational needs of refugee children, especially the most vulnerable. The exercise will continue into July.
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- UNHCR supported COR in conducting Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) stakeholder consultations in Nchelenge and in Solwezi, ahead of national consultations scheduled for the end of August.
- UNHCR continued to advance on preparedness activities and discussions, as part of the contingency planning, especially with regards to coordination and scoping actions that bear no cost implications at this point given the challenging financial situation of most stakeholders and partners.
- UNICEF, UNHCR and implementing partners have been supporting the operations of the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services in the sector of Child Protection, in Mantapala Refugee Settlement and previously in Kenani Transit Centre (when the transit was active).
- By the end of June an average of 444 children were accessing the three Child Friendly Space (CFS) funded by UNICEF in Mantapala Refugee Settlement on a daily basis.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- There is need to enhance lighting in several areas where refugees stay in both Mantapala and Meheba Refugee Settlements.
- The poor road network in areas of operation and within refugee settlement is one of the major and main challenges hampering operations. The lack of funding to improve the roads will continue to delay access to refugee sites by new arrivals, and to basic services for refugees and host communities.
- Other challenges remain the absence of cell phone network and internet connectivity in most parts of the settlement. The absence of access to energy and in particular lighting, continues to increase the risk of SGBV incidents in the settlements.



EDUCATION

Achievements and Impact

- Together with its implementing partners, UNICEF and UNHCR are supporting the operations of the Ministry of General Education (MoGE) in the Education sector.
 - The construction of 24 classrooms in Mantapala Refugee Settlement by Save the Children and Plan International has continued but has been slowed down due to concerns relating to design and quality materials, thus delaying the completion of work. It is expected that the classrooms will be ready by the end of July.
 - A total of 2,522 learners (of which 1,227 girls) have been enrolled in the eight temporary learning services (TLS) run by Save the Children and Plan International. It is expected that when the 24 classrooms are built, more learners will be enrolled.
 - The Teacher Education section from the Nchelenge District Education Board Secretary's Office, supported by the Education partners, took charge of the induction of 27 Zambian and 19 Congolese teachers, while in-depth orientation of
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24 Congolese teachers to the Zambian Primary School Curriculum was held from 11 to 15 June.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- With the actual population of 10,337 persons in Mantapala Refugee Settlement, around 4,500 refugee children are of school-going age. There is, therefore, need for school expansion in the settlement to ensure that all children are in school. There is also a need to ensure that the infrastructural gaps will be covered after CERF funding, i.e. wages for the teachers, administration offices, and accommodation for teachers, Information Communications Technology and solar lighting. There are currently no funds available for these interventions to be implemented and/or continued. UNICEF, Plan International and Save the Children International are working to scale up these discussions to provincial and national levels.
- The schools in Mantapala Refugee Settlement need to have their own Education Management Information Systems (EMIS) numbers and approval to be examination centres in order to hold examinations at different levels, under the national examination system. Discussions to this effect have started at local level and UNICEF and its implementing partners are waiting for feedback from the Nchelenge District Education Board Secretary (DEBS).
- In order for Congolese teachers to be employed in schools, as per national policy, there will be need to as early as possible, start the process of accrediting them to the Teaching Council of Zambia.
- There is need to provide Teachers Guides and learner's activity books, class readers/story books and text books. UNHCR, UNICEF and partners have worked very hard to get learning started but this support mechanism has not materialized and it is making teaching difficult. The degree of vulnerability also makes it difficult for parents to acquire essentials items, including exercise books and stationary. As such, the majority of the learners do not participate in written exercises.



HEALTH

Achievements and Impact

- Together with its implementing partners, UNICEF and UNHCR are supporting the operations of the Ministry of Health (MoH) to prevent and reduce Severe and Moderate Acute Malnutrition among children under five and pregnant and lactating women in Mantapala Refugee Settlement and St. Paul's Hospital.
 - The general health situation in Mantapala, Meheba and Mayukwayukwa Refugee Settlements has sustained stability with no major outbreak reported during the month of June. UNICEF and other health partners supported the Ministry of Health (MoH) in the National Child Health week with Mantapala Refugee Settlement
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joining the country in improving access to integrated child health services including routine vaccination, nutritional assessment, deworming, testing and treatment of malaria, pneumonia and diarrhoea among under five children. UNICEF supported MoH with provision of vitamin A capsules, remuneration and supportive supervision during Child Health Week. A total of 2,200 children under five years were targeted with further specific targets for Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV), nutritional status assessed, MUAC screening and vaccination against the vaccine preventable diseases. The District Health Office in collaboration with UNICEF and UNHCR spearheaded the week in Mantapala Refugee Settlement.

- Two hundred and seventy nine (279) children under five years have been admitted for treatment of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) since the establishment of the Mantapala Refugee Settlement. Of these children, 138 children have recovered and have been discharged.
- A total of seven deliveries took place in Mantapala Refugee Settlement since the birth delivery service was established.
- HIV prevention, care and treatment information dissemination continue. Awareness sessions are conducted from house to house, group discussion and peer to peer education. To date the cumulative number of persons reached is 12,708.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The general nutrition status of all children 0-59 months in Mantapala Refugee Settlement is not known. Therefore, it is important to conduct a comprehensive nutrition assessment.
- Most of the nutrition activities are being managed by volunteers than qualified nurses.



FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

Achievements and Impact

- Food was provided to 13,275 refugees in Mantapala Refugee Settlement and Kenani Transit Center during the month of June.
 - Super Cereal (CSB+), 60g/day, was provided to all refugees as part of the general food distribution, to complement the diet in June.
 - WFP, World Vision, and the Ministry of Agriculture conducted a two-day workshop on post-harvest management and handling to the host community to increase locally available food that will also benefit the refugee community.
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Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Access to Mantapala Refugee Settlement remains a problem. Despite the end of the rainy season, the roads remain almost impassable, especially inside the settlement.
- Having to conduct the distribution of food during the relocation period was a challenge due to the dispersion of both refugees and resources, which prolonged the period of distribution. Relocation also led to challenges on the distribution database; some refugees were not found in the database and had to be assisted by the registration team.
- Lack of a designated location with ample space for food distribution in Mantapala Refugee Settlement resulted in refugees having to walk longer distances and wait for a long time to receive their rations. The UNHCR Site Planner is looking into identifying a suitable site.



WATER AND SANITATION

Achievements and Impact

- In the WASH sector, UNICEF and its implementing partners achieved the following:
 - In Mantapala Refugee Settlement, after the decision from the WASH sector to stop drilling in flood prone areas with a consequent risk of water contamination, a ground-water-table mapping started in June and will continue in July with supervision from the Provincial Water Engineer.
 - The total water production in Mantapala settlement is 197 m³/day, giving an average of 19 litres/person/day. Twenty five (25) boreholes (BHs) have been drilled from which 22 are being used. Water testing in new BHs was undertaken during June.
 - A total of 232 communal temporary toilets were built waiting for the completion of the Households (HH) latrines. Of these HH latrines, 31 have been completed, 357 are at slab level and 1,717 pits have been excavated. The actual overall ratio for latrines in the settlement is one toilet for 45 persons.
 - A total of 217 communal bath shelters have been set up giving a ratio of one bath for 48 persons.
 - Trained volunteers are ensuring the hygiene promotion activities.
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Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- There is need to establish a system of solid waste collection management in partnership with the District authorities.



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE

Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR's partner, Caritas Czech Republic (CCR) and the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries (MLF) completed the first phase of aqua-culture assessment in Mantapala Refugee Settlement, with the second phase to be carried out by the end of July 2018.
- CCR held 10-workshops on backyard gardening and small livestock rearing. A total of 300 households were shortlisted, with 279 attending the workshops.
- A four-day training on bee keeping production and processing facilitated by the Forestry Department was held, with a total of 17 households trained (11 refugees HH camp and six from the host community).
- CCR had a three-day training of potential entrepreneurs on Generate Your Business Idea (GYBI). A total of 25 households trained in business idea generation and entrepreneurship and business planning was also conducted.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

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

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.
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- 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- Ministry of Home Affairs, UNHCR is assisting the Government to develop a roadmap that will set the strategic direction and formalize a more comprehensive refugee response in Zambia. To this end, COR has recruited a CRRF focal person, who is assisting the Commissioner and partners in leading 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, Chiengi, Kaoma and Kalumbila District Administrations.

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, World Health Organisation – WHO and United Nations Development Programme UNDP.

Local and international NGOs/CSOs

Action Aid, AAHZ – Action Africa Help Zambia, CARE International, Caritas Czech Republic, Lutheran World Federation, NCA – Norwegian Church Aid/Alliance Action, OXFAM, Save the Children, WVI – World Vision International, Khalsa Aid, 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.

Financial requirements by agency:

- **REGIONAL & ZAMBIA REFUGEE RESPONSE PLAN:** On 23 May, the Government of the Republic of Zambia, UN agencies and other partners in Lusaka, launched the Zambian Chapter of the Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRRP) for the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) situation. The RRRP country-level chapter has financial requirements of over **US\$74.2 million** in 2018 with UNHCR's component being US\$33,449,067. Limited funding has continued to be a major challenge, negatively affecting the implementation of various sectors, such as provision of livelihood activities, especially to youths, access to education and health.
- Despite the localised launch of the Zambia chapter of the DRC RRRP, partners and stakeholders have been unable to generate additional resources. Therefore, with limited funding and CERF funds coming to an end, most of the partners, such as UNICEF and others, will be compelled to cease operations in the northern operation by end of August 2018.

Key information on the Congolese refugee emergency response in Zambia can be accessed online at <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/country/zmb>.

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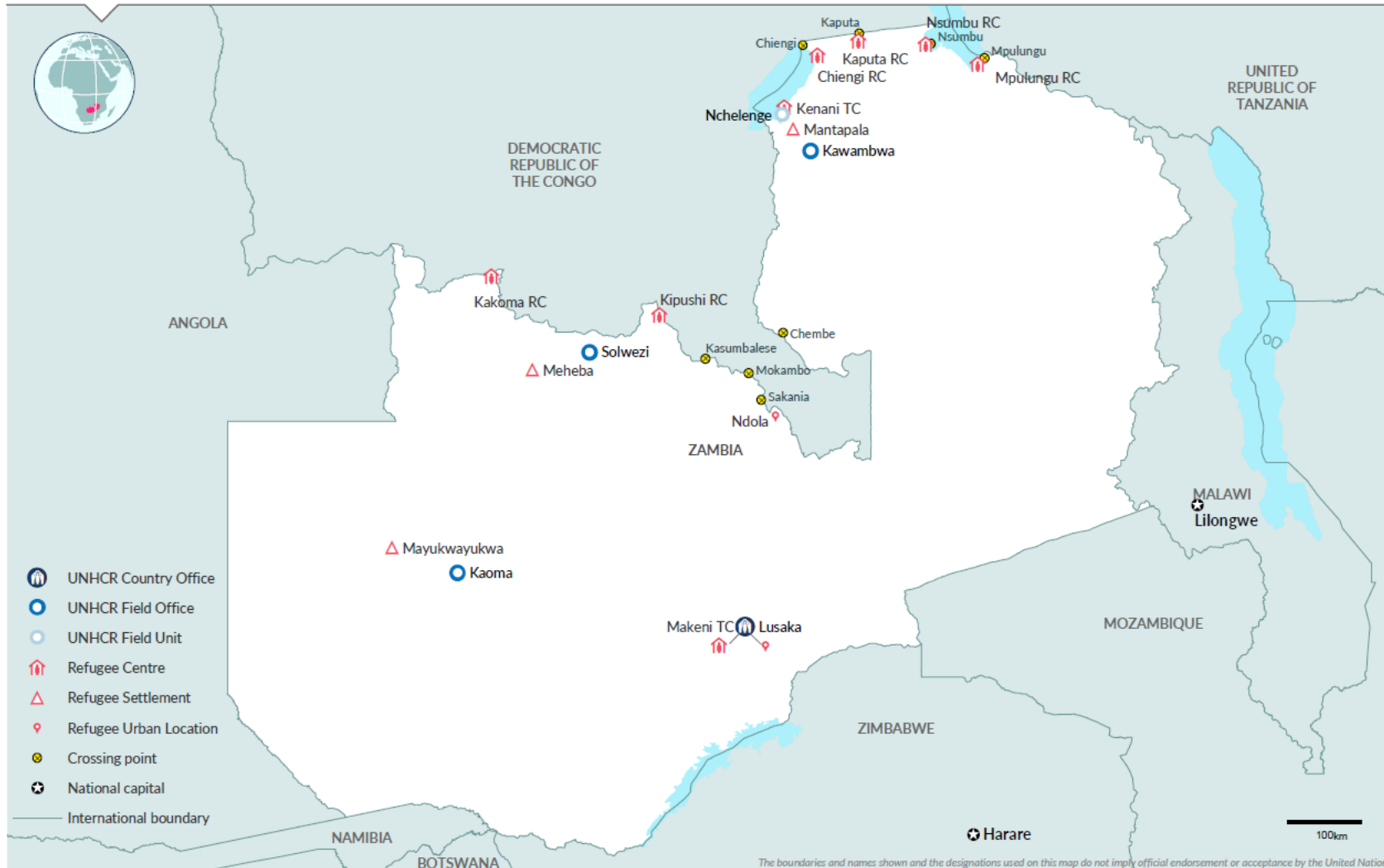
<http://www.unhcr.org/zambia.html>, <http://reporting.unhcr.org/node/10322>

INTER-AGENCY OPERATIONAL UPDATE



ZAMBIA Reference map

as of 07 Jun 2018



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