

6 August 2018

Due to a lack of funding, there is a potential shortage of water provision for refugees in Lóvua settlement. Only 50 per cent of all food items, including maize meal and beans will be distributed in August 2018 due to funding shortage. There will be no more funding for all health activities from the beginning of September 2018.

# **KEY FIGURES**

# 75%

of Congolese refugees from Kasai in Angola are women and children

# 35,688

Biometrically registered Congolese refugees in Lunda Norte Province. Total of **22,427 refugees** are currently receiving food assistance.

# 50,000

Inter-agency planning figure for Congolese refugees by the end of the year.



**58M** 

# POPULATION TRENDS



# FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS





# **Operational Context**

The outbreak of violence in the Kasai region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) in March 2017 triggered the internal displacement of some 1.4 million persons and the flight of over 35,000 refugees into Lunda Norte Province of Angola.

The Government of Angola (GoA) has an open door policy to welcome Congolese nationals fleeing as a result of the conflict. However new arrivals have significantly decreased since July 2017.

As the situation remains volatile in the Kasai region with rising numbers of internally displaced people, humanitarian agencies in Angola maintain the 2017 response planning figure of 50,000 refugees until end of December 2018. UNHCR is not currently promoting voluntary repatriation of Congolese refugees from Lunda Norte Province to their country of origin.

The interagency humanitarian response for the Congolese refugees launched a new appeal for funding to cover the areas of protection, emergency shelter, livelihoods, food security and nutrition, non-food items, water, sanitation, hygiene, health (including mental health), and education until the end of 2018. Currently, 13,723 Congolese refugees (3,345 families) are residing in Lóvua settlement.

# Highlights

- External Relations: The Second Secretary of the Japanese Embassy travelled to Lunda Norte to monitor the implementation of activities funded by the Government of Japan. During the visit, the Second Secretary met with local authorities and observed existing education and WASH facilities. In addition, there was a launch ceremony for the construction of permanent schools in Lóvua.
- Members of various provincial governmental departments, including health and justice, visited Lóvua Settlement to meet with refugee leaders and partners. During the meeting, they discussed issues relating to churches, civil registration and vaccinations. The government decided to permit 37% of the current number of churches in Lóvua to remain. Furthermore, the government proposed to hold weekly vaccination campaigns for pregnant women and children under 24 months. The government also nominated officials to visit the settlement regularly to follow up on pending issues.

# **Achievements**



# **Achievements and Impact**

- Registration: Out of the 35,688 biometrically registered refugees, 22,472 individuals contained in 5,363 families are receiving assistance. The slight increase in number of assisted refugees is due to the ongoing registration of new-borns in Lóvua settlement.
- A group of four clowns from Clowns Without Borders held performances for over 5,000 children in Luanda and Lunda Norte with the support of the Embassy of Spain. This initiative aims to promote the use of comedy as a tool to overcome trauma and stimulate social cohesion between refugee and host communities.
- Child protection mobilisers visited 1,788 homes to disseminate messages on the four aspects of child protection. In addition, there was also communal dissemination of key messages, reaching 720 refugees.
- An awareness campaign reaching 7,034 refugees was conducted. The refugees learned about child protection as well as SGBV prevention and reporting.
- More than 200 girls received training on forced marriages.
- There is a gap in the SGBV response as some mobilisers are unable to identify SGBV cases due to a lack of training. Partners organised a week long training to build the capacity of mobilisers to accurately identify SGBV cases.

## **Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

Education: School materials, such as plastic chairs and tables, arrived in Lóvua settlement. However, the number of classrooms in the four existing schools remains insufficient to accommodate the children attending school, which frequently exceeds the capacity of 4,000 children. In order for refugee children and those from the local host communities to be fully integrated into the Angolan formal education system, an estimated 60 classrooms, school equipment, WASH facilities in schools and trained teachers are needed. The estimated 60 classrooms will be able to accommodation approximately 8,000 children in three daily streams.

**Patrolling:** Although the police contingent in Lóvua settlement has received a pick-up and three motorbikes and will receive an extra ten bicycles, patrolling will still remain a challenge due to the expansive nature of the settlement.



A clown from Clowns without Borders greets a boy at the Maternity Hospital in Dundo. UNHCR/ O. Akindipe



### FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

#### **Achievements and Impact**

- General Food Distribution: During the General Food Distribution (GFD) for July, a total of 5,118 households representing 21,706 individuals received food assistance whilst 245 households did not show up. However, the food distribution was marked by significant reductions in maize meal (40%) and beans (40%), which was not received positively by refugees earlier during the joint information campaign by partners.
- Nutrition: Almost 3,000 children were screened for malnutrition in Lóvua, resulting in the identification of 11 cases of Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) and one case of Several Acute Malnutrition (SAM).
- Given the low monthly MAM rates since January 2018 (averaging less than 2%), as of August 2018, the prevention of acute malnutrition programme will be phased out. This programme currently ensures blanket distribution of Super Cereal Plus and Super Cereal to children of 6-23 months old and pregnant and lactating women. However, MAM levels will be closely monitored to prevent a possible deterioration in the situation.

### **Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

In August 2018 only 50% of the monthly ration (maize meal, beans, oil and salt) will be provided to refugees in Lóvua and the urban communities in Dundo. Additional resources are urgently needed to meet the refugee population's basic food and nutrition requirements. It is therefore critical to ensure effective and timely sensitisation of the refugee population as well as monitoring possible coping mechanisms.



# **Achievements and Impact**

- Primary health care and medical consultations: In Lóvua, 2,343 consultations were undertaken, including 785 consultations for children under five and 24 refugees were referred to secondary health facilities. The main five morbidity cases were linked to respiratory tract infection (R.T.I), musculoskeletal pain, malaria, acute diarrhoea, and parasitosis.
- Sexual & reproductive health (SRH): Provision of antenatal (ANC) and postnatal care (PNC) services continued during the period in review. In Lóvua, 121 women received ANC consultations whilst 84 women received PNC services.
- Community health workers in Lóvua held 284 health promotional activities on important health related issues.

#### **Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

- Health facilities and equipment: Refugees continue to prefer giving birth either in their emergency shelters or arrive at the clinic in Lóvua very late and are unwilling to be referred to the general hospital in Dundo due to discrimination and distance. Lóvua clinic is not equipped to deal with complications during childbirth. Partners are considering to designate the Lóvua Municipality health post as a first line of referral for non-high-risk births, which would also benefit the local communities. Partners are still considering how to improve the health post before implementing the suggestion to utilise it.
- The lack of a second ambulance continues to delay the efficient transfer of medical referrals to Dundo hospital, as well the movements of patients in the settlement, as many villages are far from the clinic.
- There will be no more funds for all health-related activities in Lóvua settlement as from the beginning of September 2018.



# WATER AND SANITATION

### Achievements and Impact

- Water: Some 504 households received construction materials (tarpaulins, nails, and latrine slabs) for the construction of family latrines.
- Partners rehabilitated three water distribution points in the three host communities surrounding the Lóvua refugee settlement.

### **Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

The overall lack of funding for prolonged water trucking is a major operational concern and is mainly because the borehole drilling was fraught with delays and complications. Five boreholes still need drilling and will therefore only be operational in the coming months, much later than initially anticipated.



#### **Achievements and Impact**

- Clinic: the construction of the second medical clinic is ongoing and should be completed in August 2018.
- Preparations are ongoing for the construction of schools. The plan is to construct three schools of 24 classrooms by the end of the year.

#### **Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

- Transitional shelter: The plastic sheets and family tents, used to construct emergency shelters in Lóvua early 2018, are gradually getting rundown due to the harsh weather conditions over the last six months. Transitional shelters are needed.
- Roads: Following the construction of internal roads within Lóvua settlement, funding is needed to maintain the integrity of the roads to survive the rainy season due to start in September.



#### **Achievements and Impact**

- An additional 45 hectares of agricultural land were distributed to 90 refugee households (½ hectare per household). In total, 209 hectares of agricultural land have been cleared and distributed to 418 refugee households, which is 42% of the households identified for agricultural activities and land allocation.
- Some 150 families received agricultural tools such as hoes to facilitate their cultivation activities.

### **Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

Partnerships: Livelihood activities are limited, but very much needed to move from the emergency setting to a more stable developing situation. Without resources, the operation will not have enough development partners to assist both the refugee and the host communities in Lóvua.

# Working in partnership

Humanitarian and development partners are actively supporting the Government of Angola to ensure adequate and effective response to the needs of the Congolese refugees. A bi-weekly interagency coordination meeting is held in Luanda. In Dundo, weekly inter-agency meetings ensure a comprehensive and integrated operational response to the refugee situation. Sectoral working group coordination meetings are also organised weekly in Dundo.

# Partners in the response:

- Angolan Red Cross Society
- CARITAS
- FAO Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
- IOM International Organization for Migration
- JRS Jesuit Refugee Service
- LWF Lutheran World Federation
- MAG Mine Advisory Group
- MdM Médicos del Mundo
- NCA Norwegian Church Aid
- PIN People in Need
- UNAIDS The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
- UNDP United Nations Development Programme
- UNDSS United Nations Department for Safety and Security
- UNFPA United Nations Population Fund
- UNHCR United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- UNICEF United Nations' Children's Fund
- UNRCO United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office
- WFP World Food Programme
- WHO World Health Organization
- WVI World Vision International

The Angola Inter-Agency Refugee Appeal (January – December 2018) is available on the Angola Operational Data Portal. Agencies are very grateful for the financial support provided by donors, contributing to their activities with un-earmarked and earmarked funds, as well as for those who have contributed directly to the operations in Angola.

**Special thanks to China, Germany, Japan and the United States of America** for their contributions to UNHCR's operations in, Lunda Norte, Angola in 2018.

**Special thanks to Japan** for their contribution to UNICEF's operation in Lunda Norte, Angola in 2018.

## CONTACTS

**Omotola Akindipe,** Associate Reporting Officer akindipe@unhcr.org, Tel: +244 926 829 455

Markku Aikomus, Senior Regional External Relations Officer aikomus@unhcr.org, Tel: +27 81 797 7456

#### LINKS

Angola Operational Data Portal