

Angola

1 – 31 May 2019

The **intentions survey** regarding Congolese return to the DRC took place in Lovua settlement from 9 to 20 May.

Joint Livelihoods Strategy was launched in May, through common efforts by different partners working in Lovua settlement

KEY INDICATORS

75%

of Congolese refugees from Kasai in Angola are women and children.

36,679

Biometrically registered Congolese refugees in Lunda Norte Province. A total of **23,795 refugees** are currently receiving food assistance.

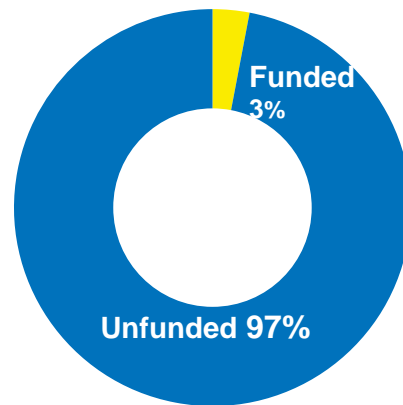
53,000

Inter-agency planning figure for Congolese refugees by the end of 2019.

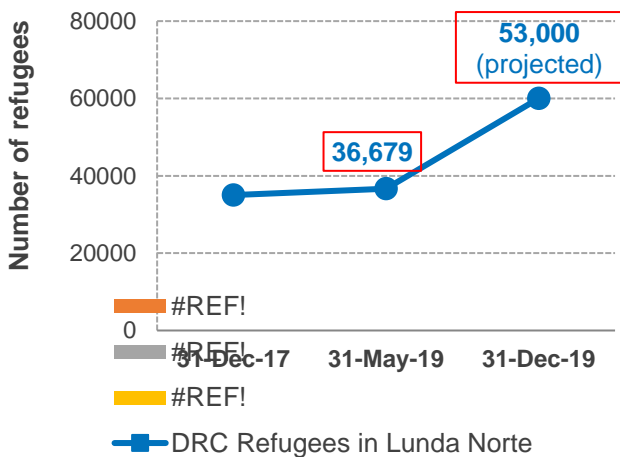
FUNDING

USD 60 million

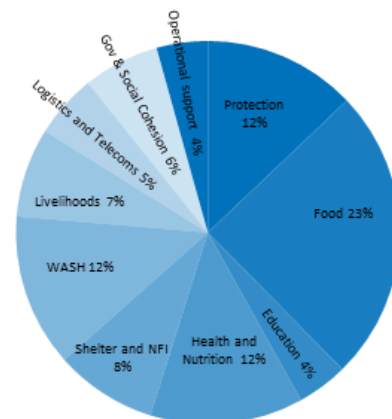
requested for the Kasai emergency in 2019 (Regional Response for the DRC Situation)



REFUGEE POPULATION TRENDS



FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS



Update on Achievements

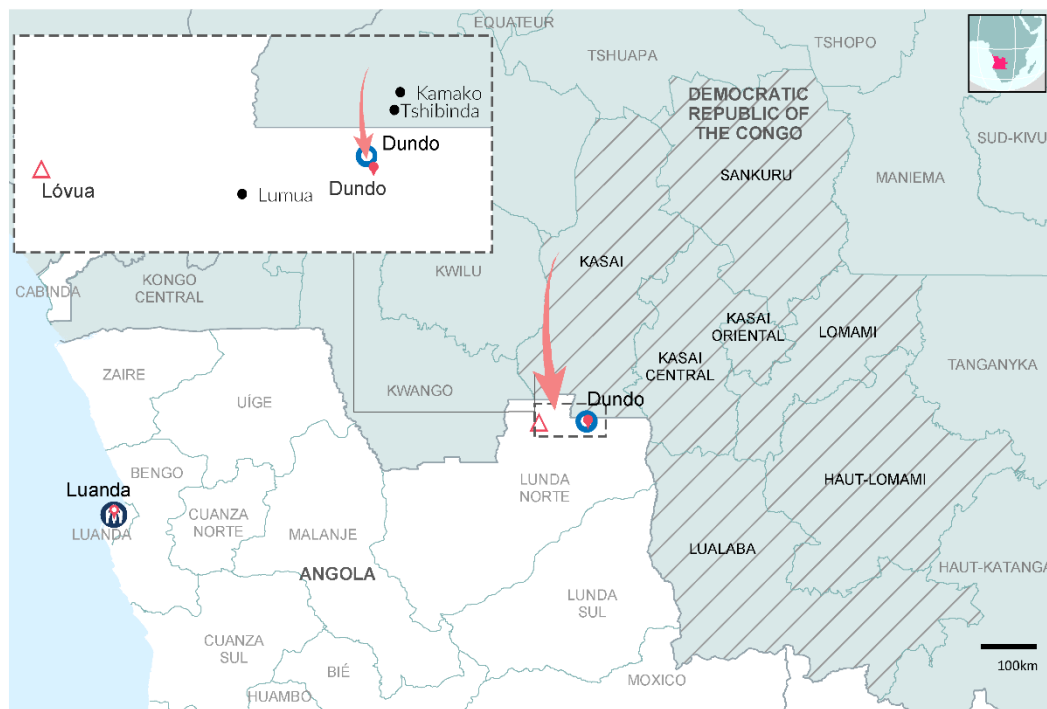
Operational Context

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, Angola. From August 2017, however, the number of new arrivals decreased sharply. In 2018, the refugee population in Lunda Norte only increased as a result of births and family reunification.

Refugees from Kasai were initially accommodated in two overcrowded transit centres in Dundo town, as well as throughout host communities in and around urban areas. The Government of Angola (GoA) therefore identified an area of land, the Lóvua Settlement, some 95 kms from Dundo town, for refugee occupation. In August 2017, the GoA, and partners began relocating refugees to this site. By 19 January 2019, when relocation ended, over 19,700 refugees had been transferred to the Lóvua Settlement. In October 2018, the GoA initiated an operation to tackle illegal diamond mining, called *Operação Transparência (Operation Transparency)*. During the exercise over 400,000 Congolese nationals were expelled from Angola. Although the operation did not target refugees, some 1,500 in Lunda Norte Province were caught up in the exercise and returned to the DRC. This prompted a surge in relocation to the Lóvua Settlement as refugees accommodated there were at less risk of being sent back to the DRC.

Most refugees in Lóvua Settlement celebrated the election of the new President of the DRC in January 2019 with whom they share ethnic and cultural ties. Since then, some refugees have approached partners requesting return to the DRC. To address this, an “intentions survey” was conducted in May 2019, with analysis of the findings currently ongoing.

Inter-Agency partners have been working to ensure protection, build resilience among refugee communities and promote peaceful coexistence between refugees and the host population. The main priorities for 2019 are: (i) to transition from emergency to development; ii) to strengthen refugee and host communities’ leadership structures; and (iii) to support refugees and host communities on livelihood activities.



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
- Refugee location
- UNHCR Field Office
- Refugee settlement
- Congolese refugees

Achievements

Highlights

The intentions survey regarding Congolese return to the DRC took place in Lovua settlement from 9 - 20 May. In total, 7,780 adult refugees were interviewed, representing 4,799 households / 16,000 individuals. Colleagues are currently working on data compilation and analysis, with initial provisional results pointing to 85% of refugees expressing willingness to return to the DRC. Nonetheless, it seems that the majority of these refugees do not want to return to Kasai, and some are under the impression they will get housing in a new complex in Kinshasa. A report is being drafted.

A Joint Livelihoods Strategy for Lóvua settlement was finalised and launched in May, with its main goal of improving the livelihoods of refugees and host communities through economic and financial inclusion towards self-reliance.



Achievements and Impact

- Out of 36,679 individuals biometrically registered, 23,795 individuals are receiving assistance, from which 20,176 individuals (5,047 families) are currently in Lovua settlement;
- Social mobilizers conducted three awareness raising sessions on menstrual health management at Women Friendly Spaces. About 250 adolescent girls joined the sessions;
- Partners distributed 250 sanitary pads to 125 adolescent girls at Lovua settlement; as well as 185 dignity kits to 185 school girls aged from 12 to 19 at ADPP schools in Lovua settlement;
- 56 refugee representatives were trained on the main concepts of sexual and reproductive health. The training aimed to have the refugee leaders' approval for the organization of behavioural change campaign on sexual and reproductive health ,including HIV/AIDS prevention;
- Mapping of pregnant women was conducted in May, with 600 visibly pregnant women and 123 adolescent girls aged from 14 to 19 recorded;
- Sensitization on the consequences of teenage pregnancy was conducted in the settlement, with 500 adolescents reached with key messages;
- Youth Friendly Space will be inaugurated in zone E;
- A two-day training on child protection was held by partners. A total of 45 teachers, amongst whom 20 women and 25 men, were trained on minimum standards for child protection, with a focus on the role of teachers in child protection cases. The training also included a module on the dissemination of referral pathways for child protection cases, within the existing structures in the settlement.

Gaps and Challenges

- Partners have been facing lack of capacity on child and social protection, due to budget restrictions;
- Lack of food in hospitals represents a big concern, especially for children and elderly people;
- Lack of Secondary education remains to be a gap in Lovua settlement, and partners have been trying to find solutions to repair the situation.



Achievements and Impact

- Total number of consultations in Lunda Norte for the month of May: 5.714 (among which 1.986 children <5 years old):
 - Ante-Natal Care consultations (ANC): 430;
 - Post-Natal Care consultations (PNC): 131
- Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) programme: currently 12 children;
- Number of deliveries: 103 (of which 92 took place at the clinics in the settlement);
- Urgent referrals to hospitals in Dundo: 38;
- Health promotion activities: 32.830 participants (on the subjects of hygiene, importance of vaccination – with focus on polio, prevention and control of tuberculosis, blood donation);
- Main morbidities included:
 - 30.2% Malaria (1.726 cases);
 - 19.4% Upper Respiratory Tract Infection (1.109 cases);
 - 16.2% Intestinal Parasites (923 cases);
 - 13.5% Musculoskeletal pain (774 cases);
 - 12.7% Acute Diarrhea (725 cases);
 - 7.8% Urinary Tract Infection (447 cases);
 - 7.5% Skin problems (431 cases)
- Mental Health and Psychosocial Support:
 - Group sessions – with parents, adolescents and children: 1.300 participants;
 - Sensibilization and mental health needs assessment: 502 participants;
 - Individual psychosocial consultations: 47

Gaps and Challenges

- Some medicine items will run out from September onwards. Partners are working to address the issue, and trying other sources of funding to secure new procurement of medicine;
- Mental health experts are needed, namely medics and psychologists;
- Supply of HIV tests and treatment being required, due to national stock limitations;
- Third clinic will be inaugurated in June in Lovua settlement;
- Internal and external training on Ebola diagnostics and first response needs to be developed;

- Sexual Reproductive Health campaign needs to be continued, targeting both men and women.



FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

- 19,906 people were supplied during the GFD. The distribution included maize meal, red peas, vegetable oil, and iodized salt this month.



LIVELIHOODS

Achievements and Impact

- Livelihoods Strategy was finalized;
- 150 beneficiaries received training on smart agricultural practices;
- A drip irrigation system has been installed in Lovua settlement's livelihoods demonstration farm and extended to accommodate the livestock shade that is under construction;
- Funding is needed as more refugees show an interest in farming activities and agricultural workshops;
- Agricultural land has been reopened and 500 refugees will be able to actively engage in farming;
- A technical consultant from the Livelihoods and Economic Inclusion Unit is to offer technical training as well as 5,000 USD for the agricultural programme.

Working in partnership

Humanitarian and development partners are actively supporting the GoA to ensure adequate and effective response to the needs of Congolese refugees. A monthly inter-agency 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 on a weekly basis, in Dundo

Partners in the Response:

- Angolan Red Cross Society
- ADPP - Ajuda de Desenvolvimento de Povo para Povo Angola
- 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

Financial Information

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 operation.

External / Donor Relations

CONTACTS

Juliana Ghazi, Associate External Relations Officer, UNHCR Angola
ghazi@unhcr.org, Tel: +244 931 788 356

Markku Aikonus, Senior Regional External Relations Officer, UNHCR Regional Representation for Southern Africa (South Africa)
aikonus@unhcr.org, Tel: +27 81 797 7456

LINKS

[Angola Operational Data Portal](#)