

# Zambia

August 2021

A total of **4,825** people of concern (PoCs) have been tested for COVID-19. Total of **358** PoCs have received the 1<sup>st</sup> COVID-19 vaccination while **234** have been fully vaccinated as of 31 August.

UNHCR's operational partner, WFP distributed cash to **16,677** refugees through its Cash-Based Transfer (CBT) platform in Mantapala settlement in August.

**387** new asylum-seekers arrived in Zambia in August bringing the total number of new arrivals since 1 January 2021 to **4,225**, **75%** of new arrivals are from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

## KEY INDICATORS

### 309

New asylum-seekers (46% women) in Mantapala settlement received core relief items (CRIs).

### 130

Youths (**70** from Mayukwayukwa and **60** from Meheba settlements), part of 2021 Vocational and Entrepreneurship Sponsorship Programme (VETSP), enrolled successfully in six months trade courses.

### 49,852

PoCs have received non-medical face masks since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020.

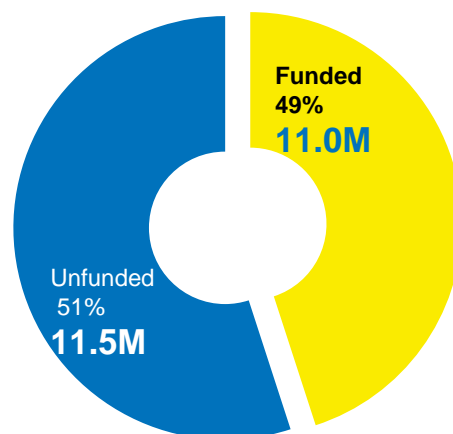


Both local and refugee children have resumed classroom learning in Mantapala settlement ©UNHCR/Bruce Mulenga

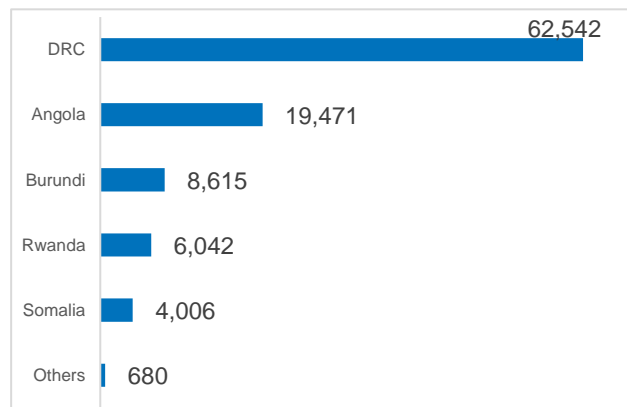
## FUNDING (AS OF 31 AUGUST 2021)

# USD 22.5 million

UNHCR's 2021 requirements for the Zambia operation:



## PEOPLE OF CONCERN: 101,356 INDIVIDUALS/ 33,627 HOUSEHOLDS AS OF 31 AUGUST 2021



Other Nationalities include the Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Liberia, Namibia, Nigeria, State of Palestine, Sierra Leone, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, Zimbabwe.

## Operational Context

The Government of Zambia is leading the refugee response to achieve its commitments towards the Global Compact on Refugees (CCR) and the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF). Under the 2017 Refugee Act, the Office of the Commissioner for Refugees (COR), within the Ministry of Home Affairs, is mandated to deal with refugee matters. Thus, in 2018 Zambia adopted the mainstreaming approach, which requires that all line ministries including the Ministries of Agriculture (MoA), Ministry of Health (MoH), Ministry of Education (MoE) and Ministry of Community Development and Social Services (MCDSS) contribute to key sectors under the COR. The coordination of different sectors and partners is managed through interagency meetings at district and national level. This is further strengthened through sectoral and bilateral interactions with various stakeholders. UNHCR is the primary interlocutor and lead agency for refugee issues among UN agencies. To respond to the Congolese refugee inflows in a holistic and coordinated manner, the Government of Zambia constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) composed of key line ministries. The IMC is comprised of the Ministry of Home Affairs (Chair), Office of the President, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Community Development and Social Services (MCDSS), Ministry of Local Government, Ministry of General Education, Minister of Luapula Province and the UN (UN Resident Coordinator's Office and UNHCR).

- As of 31 August 2021, Zambia hosted **101,356** PoCs including **71,728** refugees, **4,932** asylum-seekers and **24,696** others of concern (Angolan and Rwandan former refugees).
- In August 2021, total of **387** new asylum-seekers were registered in Zambia, **150** In-Situ and **149** births registrations.
- The PoCs comprise 33,627 households, 46% women, 47% children and 4% elderly).

UNHCR has four offices in Zambia: Representation Office in Lusaka, field offices in Solwezi and Kawambwa, and a field unit in Kaoma. In August 2021, UNHCR Zambia had **104** staff throughout the country including **52** national, **24** international and **28** affiliate staff.

## Achievements



### PROTECTION

#### Achievements and Impact

- 130 urban residency permits (white cards) were issued to PoCs in Lusaka on the following grounds: family unity 75, medical 27, investor's permit 7, employment permit 7, security permit 10 and protection permits 2.
- UNHCR Lusaka organised a virtual human rights training for 46 PoCs and UNHCR/partner staff on refugee rights and obligations.
- In Mantapala settlement, UNHCR's partner, Plan International with support from the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services (MCDSS) conducted a training for 60 refugees on prevention and response to Gender-Based-Violence (GBV) to enhance proactive reporting by community workers, bearing in mind the limited field presence of UNHCR/partner protection workers due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Plan International, with support from MCDSS and UNHCR, conducted a Rapid Gender Assessment in Mantapala settlement to assess the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic as well as coping mechanisms. The assessment report will guide future programming of GBV prevention and response activities.
- The child and youth care workers in the three refugee settlements conducted a back-to-school campaign to inform children about the reopening of schools following the long period of school closures due to the COVID-19 pandemic. All opening schools have been fumigated as well as inspected by health authorities to confirm availability of facemasks and hand sanitizers.
- Total of 47 PoCs with special needs in Lusaka received a one-off cash grant from UNHCR to support their basic needs.

- A Best Interest Determination (BID) panel meeting was conducted with implementing partners to review and prepare recommendations for five cases.

#### Identified Need and Remaining Gap

- Due to COVID-19 pandemic and restrictions, no mass physical gatherings related to the World Refugee Day were held in Lusaka and in the field.



### EDUCATION

#### Achievements and Impact

- With support from Education Cannot Wait, UNHCR handed over new educational equipment and furniture to Ministry of General Education (MOGE) through COR for Mantapala A and B schools to support the provision of education in the settlement (science laboratory equipment, mobile tablets, desks, benches and tables).
- The MOGE, through the Kalumbila District Education Board Secretary Office, deployed two additional teachers; one to Meheba's zone H and another to G primary school to support the understaffed schools. This deployment still leaves the teacher-students ration below the national standard of 1 to 99 for Meheba G primary school and 1 to 85 for H primary school.
- A total of 6,744 washable and reusable facemasks were distributed to five schools in Meheba refugee settlement and local integration area through the Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit (DMMU).

#### Identified Need and Remaining Gap

- Limited funding continues to hamper the access of refugees to higher education thereby rendering them vulnerable to exploitation and abuse.



### HEALTH

#### Achievements and Impact

- COVID-19 vaccination roll-out continued in Zambia. As of 31 August 2021, the cumulative number of COVID-19 vaccines administered stood at 579,866 doses out of the 977,600 vaccines received by Zambia (59%). A total of 358 PoCs have received the 1st dose of COVID-19, while 234 have been fully vaccinated as of 31 August.
- Mayukwayukwa refugee settlement was designated as a COVID-19 vaccination centre covering both refugees and host community. The District Health Office allocated initially 150 doses of Johnson & Johnson vaccines.
- Ministry of Health and COR, with support from UNHCR, conducted a four-day eye health outreach in Mantapala settlement reaching 108 patients (45 women) with various eye problems. Oral health care was also provided to 80 refugees and hosts (37 women). Mantapala Rural Health Centre is not able to provide these specialised services and it refers patients to St. Paul's Mission Hospital in Nchelenge District.
- USAID, in coordination with Ministry of Health and UNHCR, included Mantapala settlement in Advancement of Malaria Outcomes (PAMO) Plus Project to increase prevention and treatment of malaria. The project will also improve malaria surveillance data and increase capacity of community health workers in case management.
- UNHCR donated medicines to all the seven government-run clinics in the Meheba refugee settlement to ensure adequate supply of medications.

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Due to COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy and poor compliance to COVID-19 prevention guidelines, sensitization across the three settlements is on-going.
- In Meheba refugee settlement, the lack of adequate accommodation is hampering the deployment of additional medical staff to health clinics by the Ministry of Health. Clinic B has currently only one nurse.



### FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

#### Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR's operational partner, WFP distributed cash for food to 16,677 refugees through its Cash-Based Transfer (CBT) platform in Mantapala settlement. A total of 310 beneficiaries (141 women) not yet registered in CBT received food rations consisting of maize meal, cereals, beans and salt.

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- There are limited resources to cater for a large population in need of supplementary feeding in the Meheba refugee settlement.



### WATER, SANITATION AND ENERGY

#### Achievements and Impact

- In Mantapala settlement, the construction of 59 latrines by UNICEF through World Vision (WVI), and in partnership with UNHCR, progressed in child-friendly centres, Minor Market, Vocational and Entrepreneurship Training Centre, Food Distribution Point and the Police Post. The construction work is funded by the German Government through state-owned investment and development bank KfW Group.
- A total of 65 waterpoints were maintained in Mantapala settlement including six solar powered water boreholes and two 10,000 litre overhead tanks.
- In Meheba refugee settlement, Total of 14,799 PoCs benefited from distribution of WASH supplies conducted by World Vision including 2,849 20-litre containers and soap. Furthermore, 120 400ml hand sanitizers were distributed to seven health care facilities in the refugee settlement.

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The lack of repair kits affected the servicing and repair of broken water points in various locations in Meheba refugee settlement forcing PoCs to fetch water from other water points further away their houses.



### SHELTER, INFRASTRUCTURE AND NFIS

#### Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR distributed CRIs in Mantapala settlement to 309 new arrivals (141 women). The CRIs included sleeping mats, blankets, buckets, face masks, cooking sets, mosquito-nets, solar lamps and tarpaulin
- In Meheba refugee settlement, UNHCR and partners provided CRIs to 52 households including 249 blankets, 70 buckets, 61 kitchen sets, 172 sleeping mats, 63 sanitary napkins, 81 solar lamps, 91 mosquito nets, 126 pieces of under-wear for women and 362 soaps.
- Construction of a new isolation centre was completed in Meheba refugee settlement, and resources are being mobilized to provide additional support to the centre (electricity, water supply, plastering and painting) to make the facility fully functional.

### Identified Need and Remaining Gap

- Restricted movement to the settlement in August due to COVID-19 prevention measures affected negatively monitoring of ongoing construction works and assessment of infrastructure needs in all settlements.



### CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT

In 2018 Zambia adopted the mainstreaming approach to address refugee-related matters. The approach requires that all the line ministries (Agriculture, Health, Education and Community Development and Social Services) operating in the three refugee settlements and urban areas providing services to refugees collaborate with COR, the main interlocutor for UNHCR. This measure is in line with and reinforces the Government's shift from sectoral to multi-sectoral and outcome-based programming as embedded in the 7th National Development Plan. The approach is also in line with the Zambia-United Nations Sustainable Development Partnership Framework, which governs how the United Nations in Zambia aligns with and supports the Zambian Government in delivering development, and the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) as embedded in the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR).



### COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE

#### Achievements and Impact

- Ten lead farmers from Meheba refugee settlement participated in learning visits to various production sites to learn technologies used by other farmers. The lead farmers are expected to transfer knowledge to other farmers and also support agriculture extension services in the settlement.
- During the reporting period, honey harvesting in Mantapala settlement was initiated from over 700 hives by Bee Sweet and CCR livelihoods mentors. Bee Sweet Honey, a private sector company is supporting the beekeepers in Mantapala settlement with market access, and it is buying the honey. So far, 3,797 kilos have been harvested: 2,356 kilos from the host community and 1,441 kilos from the refugee farmers. It is anticipated that over 10,000 kilos will be harvested in 2021.
- 20 beneficiaries in Mayukwayukwa settlement participated in a four-days technical skills training where Cohort 1 (9 Congolese, 1 Zambian) was trained on production of reusable sanitary towels while Cohort 2 (1 Congolese, 4 Zambians, 4 Angolans) focused on basket making. Reusable sanitary towels and baskets to be sold in the settlement will improve livelihoods.
- In Meheba and Mayukwayukwa settlements, the youths selected under the 2021 Vocational and Entrepreneurship Sponsorship Programme (VETSP), successfully enrolled in six months trade courses; 70 from Mayukwayukwa are enrolled at Mongu Trades Training Institute while 60 from Meheba are enrolled at Solwezi Skills Training Institute.
- Foot sewing machines were handed over to 28 urban refugees in Lusaka who had successfully completed a tailoring programme and will now set up their small business to improve their livelihoods. 28 beneficiaries include 12 Congolese (11 women), 2 Burundians (2 women), 2 Somalians (2 women) and 11 Zambians (9 women). Having finalized the tailoring programme, beneficiaries are now skilled to produce school uniforms, skirts, dresses, shirts, and other clothing items. Preparations for the third intake for the tailoring programme are currently underway.

### Identified Need and Remaining Gap

- Due to the general elections held in August, reduced movement of the UN staff made direct monitoring of implementation challenging. Additionally, CCR offices were also closed for part of the month which slowed down implementation of activities.

**DURABLE SOLUTIONS****Achievements and Impact**

- By the end of August, UNHCR had submitted 422 refugees for third country resettlement consideration. 267 refugees had travelled to resettlement countries by the end of the month.

**Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

- To mitigate the effects of COVID-19, UNHCR has procured video conferencing equipment and laptops to set-up remote workstations for resettlement case processing in field locations. Additionally, some resettlement interviews are conducted by phone.

## Partnerships and Refugee Inclusion

- UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, works closely with the Office of the Commissioner for Refugees (COR) in the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and other key government line ministries. The coordination and management of refugee settlements is led by the Government as per its mandate under the Refugee Act (Act No. 1 of 2017).
- UNHCR also works in partnership with the United Nations Country Team and the international non-governmental organizations (I-NGOs) including Action Africa Help, Plan International, Caritas Czech Republic, CARE International and World Vision Zambia.
- The Government of Zambia, UNHCR and partners provide community-based protection and social support to people of concern in Lusaka as well as in Meheba (Western Province), Mayukwayukwa (North Western Province) and Mantapala (Luapula Province) refugee settlements.

## Financial Information

Total recorded contributions for the Zambia operation as of 31 August 2021 amount to **US\$ 11 million** (51% funding gap). Total financial requirements for Zambia of **US\$ 22.5 million** include requirements for the regular programme, Coronavirus Emergency, and the DRC Situation.

UNHCR is grateful for the support provided by donors for the Zambia operation in 2021:

Education Cannot Wait | European Union | Japan | Lego Foundation | UN Programme on HIV/AIDS | United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security | USA

Other Softly Earmarked Contributions (US\$)

United States of America 33 million | Germany 14 million | Private donors Australia 6.2 million | Canada 5.6 million | Private donors Germany 3.8 million

Unearmarked contributions (US\$)

Norway 80 million | Sweden 66.9 million | Private donors Spain 49.7 million | Netherlands 36.1 million | Denmark 34.6 million | United Kingdom 28.4 million | Germany 26 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 25 million | Japan 23.4 million | Private donors Japan 20.7 million | France 20.2 million | Switzerland 16.4 million | Ireland 12.5 million | Private donors Italy 12.3 million | Belgium 11.9 million | Private donors Sweden 11.9 million | Italy 10.7 million

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