

# Zambia

October 2021

Some **257 women and youth owned businesses** from **Lusaka, Meheba, Mayukwayukwa and Mantapala refugee settlements** were supported with business grants to help them recover their small-scale businesses.

A total of **5,440** people of concern (PoCs) in the three refugee settlements have undertaken **COVID-19 tests since the pandemic began in March 2020**.

At the end of October 2021, UNHCR submitted **169** cases comprising **643** refugees for resettlement consideration. Most of the resettlement departures were to Nordic countries.

## KEY INDICATORS

**641**

New asylum-seekers were registered in Zambia in October.

**200**

Students will have access to tertiary education in 2022 from the UNHCR-Cavendish University Zambia Memorandum of Understanding at 50% tuition cost from UNHCR.

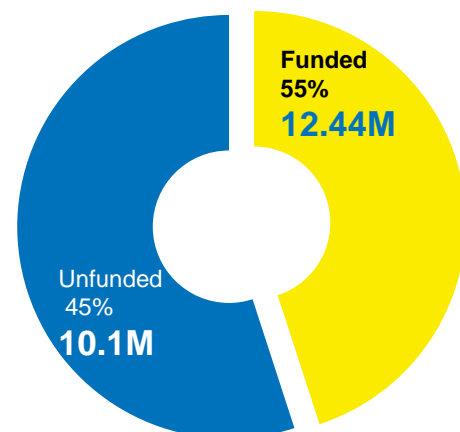
**1,500**

Households were reached during the Standardized Expanded Nutrition Survey (SENS) successfully conducted in all the three refugee settlements in Zambia and results will be shared in due course.

## FUNDING (AS OF NOVEMBER 2021)

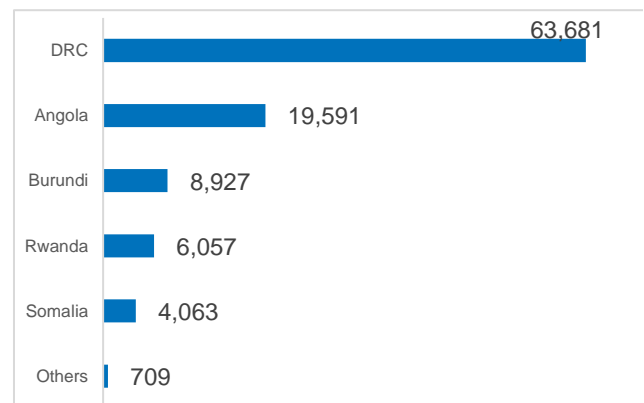
**USD 22.5 million**

UNHCR's 2021 requirements for the Zambia operation:



A new arrival at Transit Centre 36 in Meheba refugee settlement receiving food ©UNHCR/Yoram Mzumara

## PEOPLE OF CONCERN: 103,028 INDIVIDUALS/ 34,104 HOUSEHOLDS AS OF 30 OCTOBER 2021



## Operational Context

The Government of the Republic of Zambia (GRZ) leads and coordinates the refugee response in line with its commitments under the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) 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. UNHCR supports the Government in the protection and assistance of refugees. The response to the arrival of refugees from DRC is coordinated by a committee composed of key line ministries, the UN Resident Coordinator's Office and UNHCR. The Ministry of Home Affairs chairs the Committee.

- As of 31 October, Zambia was hosting **103,028** PoC's (**72,936** Refugees, **5,263** Asylum seekers and **24,829** Others of Concern) consisting **34,104** households.
- During the reporting period, there was an **increase of 1,131** PoCs (**641** new arrivals, **199** new births and **291** In-Situ registrations).
- Approximately **56% of new arrivals** crossed through Mpulungu Border point to Lusaka (36% are Burundians while 63% are from the DRC).
- The PoCs comprise **46% women**, **47% children** and **3.7% elderly**.

UNHCR has four offices in Zambia: Representation office in Lusaka, field offices in Solwezi and Kawambwa, and a field unit in Kaoma. UNHCR Zambia had **115** staff throughout the country including **56** national, **26** international and **33** affiliate staff.

## Achievements



### PROTECTION

#### Achievements and Impact

- Radio programmes were broadcast in Lusaka and across the country to raise awareness about refugees, promote social cohesion and fight xenophobia. The programmes were broadcast twice per week on the Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation. Representatives from the Commissioner for Refugees, UNHCR, partners, other UN agencies and refugees featured as guests on the programmes and covered a variety of topics including durable solutions, health, education, urban residency, and livelihoods. The radio programmes run until November, reaching hundreds of thousands of Zambians.
- The final results of the Congolese Return Intension Survey (RIS) showed that out of the 4,994 households, comprising 18,001 individuals, registered in proGres database in Mantapala settlement as of 30 September 2021, 4,303 households, comprising 17,078 individuals, participated in the RIS. According to RIS findings, 66 percent are not intending to return, 27 percent are intending to return, and seven percent have not yet decided.
- UNHCR held consultations with UNFPA and the National Statistical Agency (NSA) that resulted in the census questionnaire including a question on statelessness. The national census is scheduled to be held in 2022 and the inclusion of a question on statelessness is to determine how many people in Zambia are in the risk category of statelessness.
- UNHCR visited one correctional facility in Lusaka to monitor the situation of PoCs in detention. During the visit, seven individuals were identified as persons of concern to UNHCR, and interventions were made for their release and relocation to a refugee settlement.
- A total of 170 vulnerable women were selected as beneficiaries of the women and girls at risk programme in the three refugee settlements and Lusaka and were provided with support to engage in various income generating activities.
- A family consisting of five Rwandan refugees voluntarily returned to Rwanda with assistance from UNHCR. Assistance given included Voluntary Repatriation Grant (\$150) to each individual, one-way air ticket from Lusaka to Kigali. Furthermore, UNHCR paid for COVID-19 tests before departure, as required under new travel regulations under the pandemic.
- In Meheba refugee settlement, UNHCR conducted Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) training for 10 newly appointed PSEA focal points and their alternates in the settlement. The objective of the training was to understand what PSEA means, key principles of case management, roles and responsibilities of the focal points and the PSEA complaint mechanism.

- In Lusaka, 123 PoCs (39F: 84M) were reached with recreational activities in the four outreach centres' child friendly corners. COVID-19 prevention measures continued to be adhered to at the child friendly corners.
- Six Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) on UNHCR policy on Gender-Based Violence (GBV), risk mitigation, prevention, and response under Safe from the Start project were conducted in the reporting period in Mayukwayukwa refugee settlement, bringing the number of FGDs conducted in the settlement so far in 2021 to seven.
- UNHCR in Mayukwayukwa refugee settlement, in collaboration with the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services (MCDSS), conducted a training for 23 traditional leaders and headmen in the Mayukwayukwa catchment areas. The topic of the training was UNHCR policy on GBV risk mitigation, prevention, and response and GBV referral pathways. The objective of the training was to strengthen community structures and build their capacity on service delivery, referral pathways and follow up of cases according to the standard operation procedure.

### Identified Need and Remaining Gap

- District and provincial departments of MCDSS, police, COR and other stakeholders attended a joint workshop conducted by UNHCR, UNICEF and MCDSS on the protection principles of Children on the Move. The training levelled significant gaps in the childcare facility in Meheba refugee settlement, Safe Haven, such as not being officially registered and having necessary licensees, lack of fencing and WASH as well as being overcrowded. UNHCR, MCDSS and other partners from Meheba settlement are working to draw up an action plan to address these gaps.



## EDUCATION

### Achievements and Impact

- In Meheba refugee settlement, an UNESCO mission aimed at conducting evaluation of applications for the UNESCO Qualification Passport was received by UNHCR and COR. The mission managed to conduct four interviews and decided to interview the remaining 16 applicants remotely due to COVID-19 pandemic prevention measures.
- UNHCR in the three refugee settlements joined in the commemoration of World Teachers' Day on 5 October 2021. The teachers from all the schools in settlements, including the local integration area, joined the commemorations under the theme "Teachers at the heart of education recovery".

### Identified Need and Remaining Gap

- Limited funding and scholarships, coupled with other legal requirements such as study permits and other factors continue to hamper the access of refugees to higher education, thereby rendering them vulnerable to exploitation and abuse.



## HEALTH

### Achievements and Impact

- On 27 October, the UN Clinic officials from Lusaka visited Kaoma Field Unit and Mayukwayukwa refugee settlement to assess implementation and adherence to COVID-19 regulations following a switch from 50 per cent to 100 per cent staff presence at UN offices.
- Sensitization and compliance monitoring continued in October reaching a total number of 7,472 individuals (M:3,764; F:4,108) with messages on COVID-19 prevention in the three settlements and host community. The objective was to overcome vaccine uptake hesitance and provide general information on COVID-19.

### Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Vaccine uptake hesitancy among the PoCs and host community continued as a challenge.
- Lack of adherence to the public health guidelines including social distancing and wearing masks continues to be a challenge.

**FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION****Achievements and Impact**

- WFP, in coordination with partners, distributed cash for food to 16,890 refugees (8,269 male and 8,621 female) consisting 4,435 households through the WFP Cash-Based Transfer (CBT) platform in Mantapala refugee settlement.
- The Standardized Expanded Nutrition Survey (SENS) was successfully conducted in all the three refugee settlements in Zambia during which a total of 1,500 households were interviewed. The information collected from the survey is expected to help in the identification of gaps in nutrition as well as planning for better interventions in addressing the various health and livelihood challenges faced by people of concern.
- A total of 53 persons were provided with food under the supplementary feeding program. Out of the persons supported, seven were malnourished children, eight malnourished individuals with chronic illness and 38 malnourished people living with HIV and AIDS.

**Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

- In Meheba refugee settlement, slow implementation of the supplementary feeding program was noted. To address this gap, UNHCR, COR and Ministry of Health will hold a meeting to discuss how best the implementation can be expedited.

**WATER, SANITATION AND ENERGY****Achievements and Impact**

- Following the identification of gaps, UNHCR will construct WASH facilities in Meheba refugee settlement, namely 13 (1x4) VIP latrines, 11 (1x4) washrooms, two communal kitchens, and three laundry sheds at Transit Centres 28, 29, 36 and 44, Safe House, Safe Haven, Meheba A and D Primary Schools. The planned interventions are at a technical evaluation stage.
- In Mayukwayukwa refugee settlement, a capacity building training for additional 20 latrine builders (3 refugees, 5 others of concern, and 12 Zambians) in latrine construction was conducted by World Vision Zambia (WVZ) under KfW-UNICEF WASH Programme. The trained latrine builders will assist in the construction of improved household latrines in the settlement.
- A total of 65 waterpoints were maintained in Mantapala settlement which include six solar powered water boreholes, mounted with two overhead tanks which have water storage capacity of 10,000 litres each. The boreholes supplies 32 litres of water per person per day.

**Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

- Inadequate number of handwashing points in Meheba refugee settlement was identified. Procurement of 500 litre tanks/containers to be placed at the identified locations for easy access to water for handwashing will be proposed in the 2022 budget.
- There is need for establishment of several safe solid waste disposal facilities in Mayukwayukwa refugee settlement.

**SHELTER, INFRASTRUCTURE AND NFIS****Achievements and Impact**

- World Vision under the Education Cannot Wait project has completed the rehabilitation of two classroom blocks at Meheba D Primary School: 1x9 classrooms building and an early childhood education building. A three-classroom building has been constructed at Meheba C Primary School.

**Identified Need and Remaining Gap**

- The rainy season in Zambia has commenced and will last until April 2022. These yearly rains which are often heavy, pose a great challenge on the road network hindering the access to some parts of refugee settlements by vehicles. UNHCR and COR have planned for meetings to find long lasting solution to ensure access is not hindered.



## 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

- Some 257 women and youth owned businesses from Lusaka as well as Meheba, Mayukwayukwa and Mantapala settlements have been supported with business grants to help them recover their small-scale business which were negatively impacted by the lockdown measures set in place during the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Total of 50 women from Meheba refugee settlement were supported with ZMW 4,000 (US\$ 245) each by Caritas Czech Republic – CCR (livelihoods implementing partner) as a form of asset empowerment to help refugee women to take up income generating activities. The small business start-up capital which they received will enable the women to improve their household food security through earnings that will be realised from their small business enterprises.
- Total of 25 farmers in Mantapala settlement participated in a 3-day training in conservation agriculture. The training was facilitated by CCR and Ministry of Agriculture. Participants included 15 refugees (8 Female, 7 Male) and 10 Zambians (6 female, 4 male). Additionally, 80 farmers who participated in the rice production training received 20 kilograms of rice seeds each. Farmers also received rice harvesting equipment.
- Two farmer groups from Meheba refugee settlement participated in a mini trade exhibition in Kalumbila District. The farmer groups (Kalota and Kavasenge cooperatives) exhibited a range of processed products from Meheba settlement such as rice, porridge, beans, popcorn, peanut butter and maize meal samp. The mini expo was facilitated by Trident Foundation Limited with support from Kalumbila mine aimed at improving market and trade linkages.
- WVI, COR, UNHCR and other partners launched the Ultra-Poor Graduation Project which targets 1,200 households in Mantapala and Meheba refugee settlements up to 2023. The project will be implemented in Mantapala settlement by WVI with funding support from the Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM) of the United States of America. The initiative will promote the nexus between humanitarian and development planning in refugee contexts.
- As part of preparing farmers for the 2021/2022 agriculture season in Mantapala settlement, CCR distributed fertilizers, crop seeds which included maize and beans, and FAW pesticide to 125 farmers (75 refugees, 50 host) to support crop production in the settlement. Each beneficiary received four bags of fertilizers (two basal and two top-dressing), 10kg maize and 200mls of FAW pesticide to cover a total of 62.5 hectares.

### Identified Need and Remaining Gap

- Mobility remains a challenge in Mayukwayukwa refugee settlement as the field team only has one motorbike for monitoring activities.
- In Mantapala settlement, due to limited land for farming activities, some refugee farmers have resorted to renting land in the nearby host community, however, this is quite costly. To address the situation, UNHCR reviewed COR budget to include a land audit and issuance of farm plots.

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

- At the end of October 2021, UNHCR submitted 169 cases comprising 643 refugees for resettlement consideration. Most of the cases were submitted to the Nordic countries. Resettlement quotas for 1,250 individuals have been allocated to UNHCR Zambia. 189 cases consisting of 681 individuals travelled to resettlement countries by the end of October 2021.

**Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

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

## Partnerships and Refugee Inclusion

- UNHCR 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 local and 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 23 November 2021 amount to **US\$ 12.443 million** (45% 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 (in US\$)**

Education Cannot Wait | European Union | Japan | Lego Foundation | UN Programme on HIV/AIDS | United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security | United States of America | Luxembourg | UN Children Fund

**Other Softly Earmarked Contributions (in US\$)**

Germany 43.7 million | United States of America 33 million | Private donors Australia 9.8 million | Canada 5.6 million | Private donors Germany 5.2 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 2.3 million | France | Japan | Luxembourg | Norway | Spain | Private donors

**Unearmarked contributions (in US\$)**

Norway 80 million | Sweden 75.4 million | Private donors Spain 69.3 million | United Kingdom 40.4 million | Netherlands 36.1 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 35.3 million | Denmark 34.6 million | Private donors Japan 27.7 million | Germany 26 million | Japan 23.4 million | France 20.2 million | Private donors Italy 17.6 million | Switzerland 16.4 million | Private donors Sweden 14.4 million | Ireland 12.5 million | Belgium 11.9 million | Italy 10.7 million | Algeria | Armenia | Australia | Austria | Bulgaria | Canada | Costa Rica | Cyprus | Estonia | Finland | Holy See | Iceland | Liechtenstein | Luxembourg | Malta | Monaco | Montenegro | Morocco | New Zealand | Peru | Philippines | Portugal | Republic of Korea | Russian Federation | Saudi Arabia | Serbia | Singapore | South Africa | Thailand | Turkey | Uruguay | Private donors

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