



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

DIMA - RBSA
Data, Identity Management and Analysis - Regional Bureau for Southern Africa

Population Data Analysis

Regional Bureau
for Southern Africa

May 2022



Overview

As of the end of May 2022, Southern Africa hosts around **7.8 million persons of concern (PoCs) to UNHCR**. This includes 1.1 million refugees and asylum-seekers, 6.7 million internally displaced persons (IDPs), as well as others of concern and refugee returnees. The number remains at a similar level from April 2022. **The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) represents 78 per cent** of the regional data.

Refugees, Asylum-Seekers, and Others of concern

The region hosts **787,000 refugees, 285,000 asylum-seekers, and 36,000 others of concern**. The biggest inflows are from Rwanda and the Central African Republic into DRC. DRC is also a major source of refugees and asylum-seekers flowing into South Africa, Zambia, Congo, Angola, and Malawi. Most major countries of origin are in Africa, but Bangladeshis have also requested asylum in South Africa (see Figure 1).

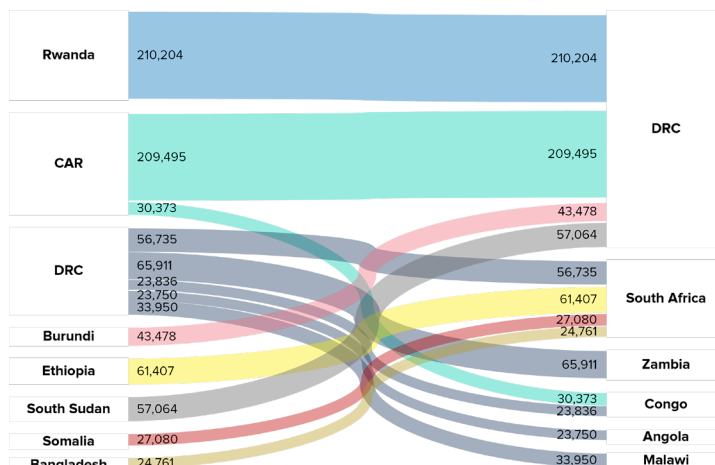


Figure 1. Flows of Refugees, Asylum-Seekers and Others of Concern from Top 8 Countries of Origin

Note: The flows shown in this figure are restricted to only the largest 8 countries of origin and more than 20,000 people.

Among refugees and asylum-seekers, the male represents 53 per cent and the female 42 per cent. Children under age 18 take up to 42 per cent, and the working-age group from 18 to 59 years old is 51 per cent. The unknown group of demographic information is 5 per cent; most of them are self-settled in Angola and Mozambican asylum-seekers in Zimbabwe.

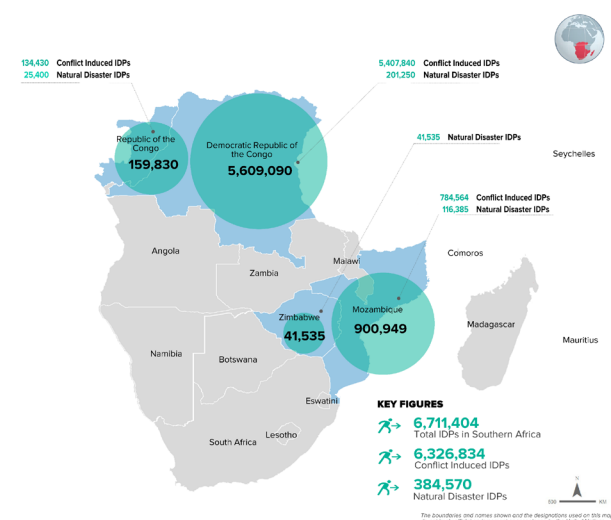


Figure 2. Number of IDPs in RBSA by Cause as of 31 May 2022

of 18. Most individuals (1,493) were submitted to the United States which is 76 per cent of all submissions. Malawi was the country of asylum that submitted the highest number of individuals, 769, followed by Zambia, 459. Departed individuals were 784; among them, 417 left to the United States.

Data Sources

Among 16 countries in the region, the data of refugees and asylum-seekers in 11 countries are fully hosted by proGres v4 (PRIMES). In South Africa, the data are managed by the government and UNHCR manages only the cases for assistance and durable solutions. In Angola, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Zambia and Zimbabwe, some portion of the data is not available in ProGres v4. Overall, more than half of refugees and asylum-seekers in Southern Africa are available in ProGres v4. For IDP data, UNHCR refers to different sources. Specifically, the source of DRC's IDP figure is the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). For Mozambique and Zimbabwe is the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and for Congo is the government, the Ministry of Social Affairs and Humanitarian Action (MASAH).

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

In Southern Africa, there are 6.7 million internally displaced persons (IDPs). Most of them are conflict-induced, 6.3 million, but there are also natural disaster-induced IDPs, 0.4 million. The data on IDPs are reported in DRC, Congo, Mozambique and Zimbabwe (see Figure 2).

Durable Solutions

There were 57 voluntary repatriations in the region in May 2022. Specifically, 56 Congolese (DRC) returned from South Africa, and so did one Congolese (DRC) to Congo. In 2022, 1,499 individuals have repatriated in total. For resettlement, 1,964 persons were referred to resettlement countries for consideration by the end of May 2022. Fifty per cent of the individuals on the submissions were male and fifty per cent were female; 60 per cent of them were children under the age

KEY FIGURES



7,819,777

Total Population of concern



1,108,373

Refugees, asylum-seekers, other of concern & returnees**

REF **787,439**

ASY **284,923**

OOC **35,865**

RET **146**

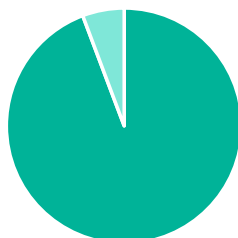


6,711,404

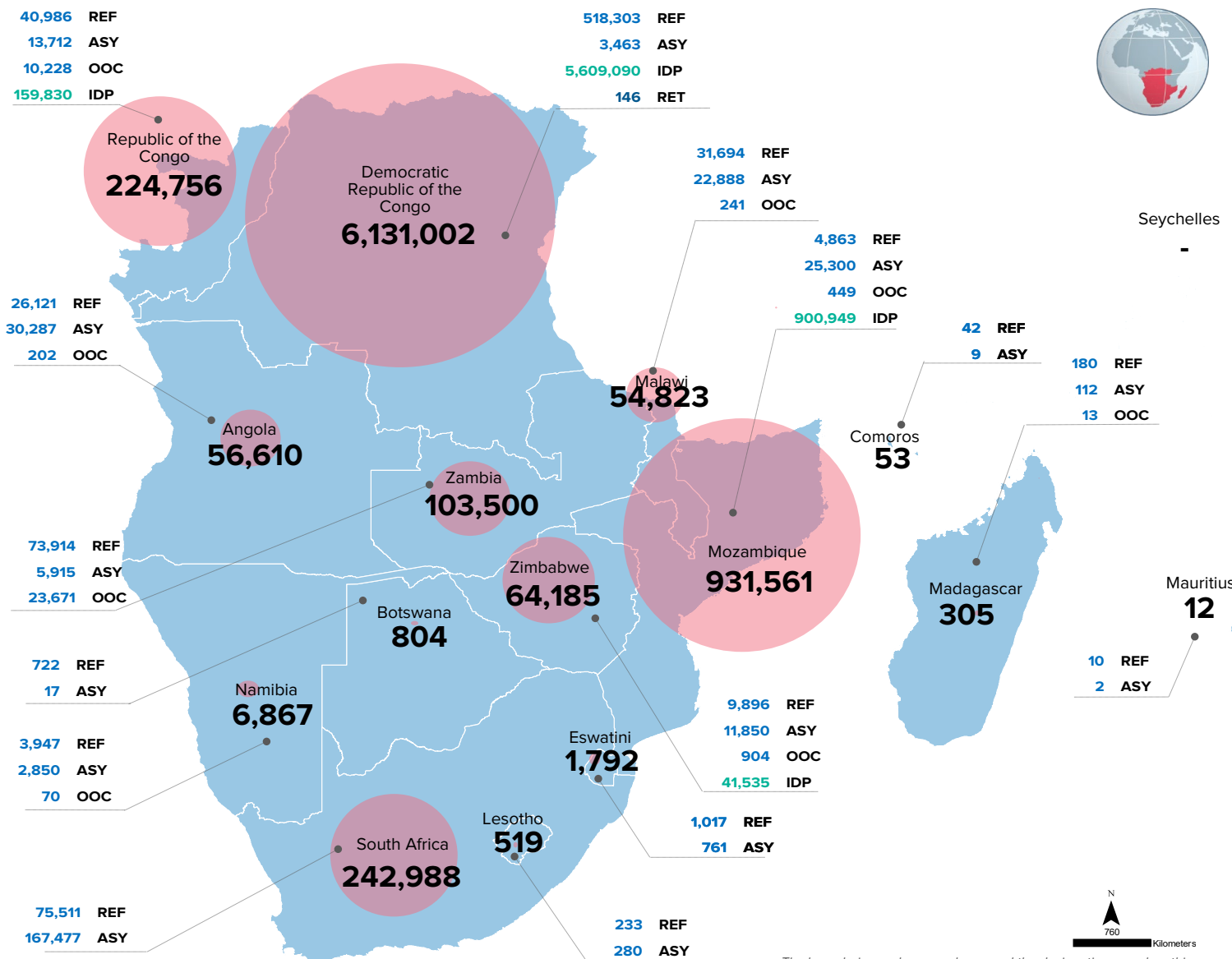
IDP population

Natural Disaster IDPs
384,570
6%

Conflict Induced IDPs
6,326,834
94%



PoCs IN SOUTHERN AFRICA REGION*



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations

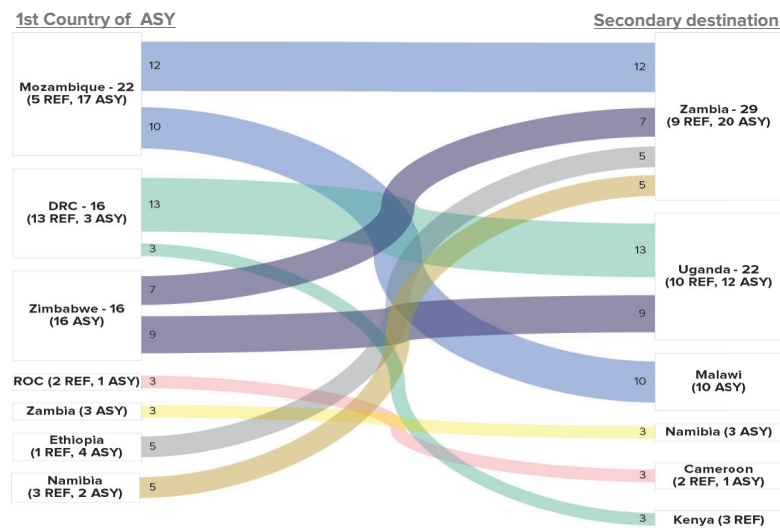
CROSS BORDER MOVEMENTS KEY FIGURES



AGES, GENDER AND LEGAL STATUS OF MOVERS **



CROSS BORDER MOVEMENTS WHERE THE FLOW INVOLVED 3 POCs AND MORE *



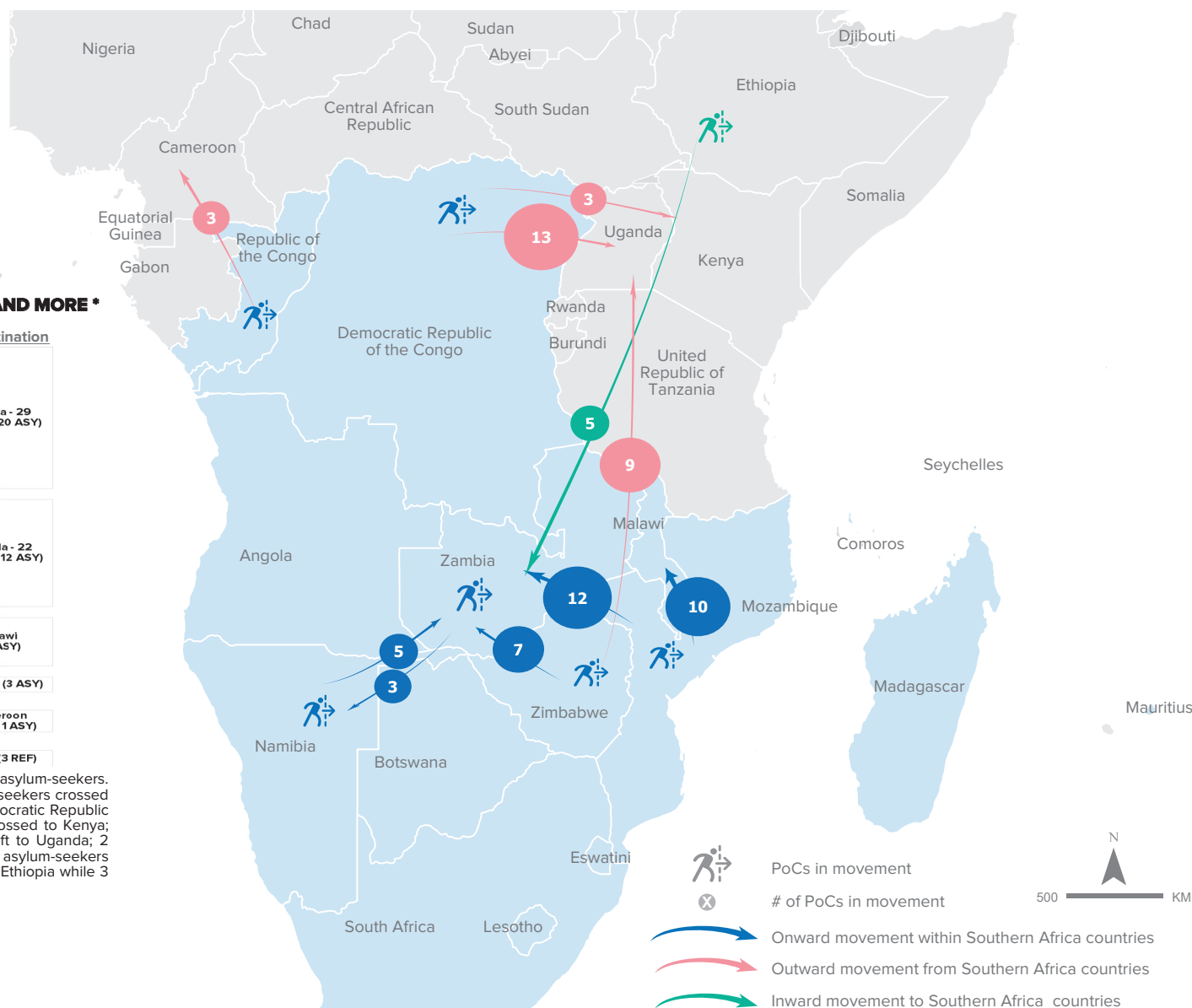
In May 2022, **70 cross-border movements** were recorded involving 24 refugees and 46 asylum-seekers. From the **22 Persons of Concern (PoCs)** who left Mozambique, 5 refugees and 7 asylum-seekers crossed to Zambia while 10 refugees went to Malawi; Among the **16 PoCs** who crossed from Democratic Republic of The Congo (DRC), 10 refugees and 3 asylum-seekers went to Uganda, 3 refugees crossed to Kenya; From the **16 asylum-seekers** who crossed from Zimbabwe, 7 went to Zambia and 9 left to Uganda; 2 refugees and 1 asylum-seeker crossed from The Republic of Congo (RoC) to Cameroon; 3 asylum-seekers crossed from Zambia to Namibia; 1 Refugee and 4 asylum-seekers arrived in Zambia from Ethiopia while 3 refugees and 2 asylum-seekers also joined Zambia from Namibia.

CUMULATIVE CROSS BORDER MOVEMENTS TREND PER YEAR



* The flows shown are restricted only to 5 or more people of movement, therefore the totals is different from the overall movements of the month due to the exclusion. In case of the same country of origin and first country of asylum, due to the change of nationality of some PoCs, country of origin are replaced with the previous

MAP OF THE CROSS BORDER MOVEMENTS WHERE THE FLOW INVOLVED 3 POCs AND MORE *

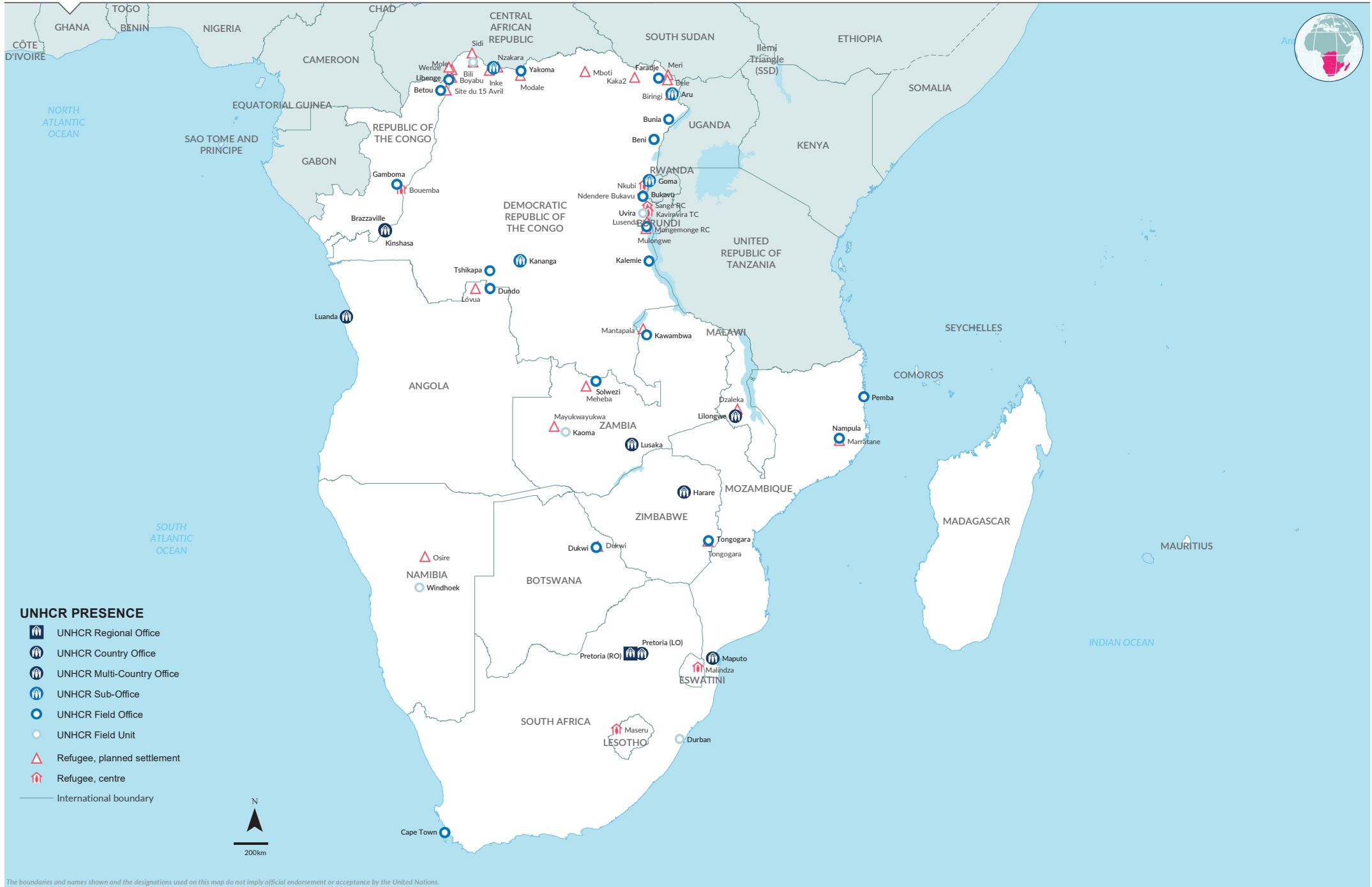


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*PoCs = Person of Concerns

** REF = Refugee, ASY = Asylum-seeker, OOC = Other person of concern

Data sources: UNHCR PRIMES. For more information or to contribute, please contact UNHCR RBSA DIMA (rsarbdima@unhcr.org)



Persons of concern in Southern Africa, Data as of 31 May 2022*

Country of Asylum	Location**	Selfsettled***	Refugee	Asylum-Seeker	Other of Concern	IDP by Conflict	IDP by Natural Disaster	Returned IDP	Refugee Returnee	Statelessness	Host Community	Total
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Other	No	397,267	2,559	-	5,146,700	187,577	-	146	-	-	5,734,249
	IDP Camp	No	-	-	-	261,140	13,673	-	-	-	-	274,813
	Lusenda	No	26,448	115	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26,563
	Meri	No	25,524	43	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25,567
	Inke	No	17,841	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17,842
	Boyabu	No	11,551	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,551
	Mole	No	10,569	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,591
	Bili	No	10,232	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,232
	Biringi	No	7,914	89	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,003
	Mulongwe	No	7,728	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,728
	Bele	No	2,557	634	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,191
	Mboti	No	672	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	672
	Subtotal		518,303	3,463	-	5,407,840	201,250	-	146	-	-	6,131,002
Mozambique	Other	No	1,960	19,077	72	784,564	116,385	-	-	-	-	922,058
	Maratane Camp	No	2,903	6,223	377	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,503
	Subtotal		4,863	25,300	449	784,564	116,385	-	-	-	-	931,561
South Africa	Unknown	Yes	75,511	167,477	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	242,988
	Subtotal		75,511	167,477	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	242,988
Congo	Other	No	35,488	9,188	10,088	134,430	25,400	-	-	-	-	214,594
	Site du 15 Avril	No	5,498	310	134	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,942
	Site de Bouemba	No	-	4,214	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,220
	Subtotal		40,986	13,712	10,228	134,430	25,400	-	-	-	-	224,756
Zambia	Meheba	No	22,371	525	8,831	-	-	-	-	-	-	31,727
	Mayukwayukwa	No	15,174	15	7,121	-	-	-	-	-	-	22,310
	Mantapala	No	17,723	936	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18,659
	Other	No	13,046	4,439	915	-	-	-	-	-	-	18,400
	Unknown	Yes	5,600	-	6,804	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,404
	Subtotal		73,914	5,915	23,671	-	-	-	-	-	-	103,500
Zimbabwe	Other	No	769	76	93	-	41,535	-	-	-	-	42,473
	Tongogara	No	9,127	5,228	811	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,166
	Unknown	Yes	-	6,546	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,546
	Subtotal		9,896	11,850	904	-	41,535	-	-	-	-	64,185
Angola	Unknown	Yes	17,394	30,024	141	-	-	-	-	-	-	47,559
	Lovua Settlement	No	6,998	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,998
	Other	No	1,729	263	61	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,053
	Subtotal		26,121	30,287	202	-	-	-	-	-	-	56,610
Malawi	Dzaleka	No	31,694	22,888	241	-	-	-	-	-	-	54,823
	Subtotal		31,694	22,888	241	-	-	-	-	-	-	54,823
Namibia	Osire	No	3,561	1,591	38	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,190
	Other	No	386	1,259	32	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,677
	Subtotal		3,947	2,850	70	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,867
Eswatini	Other	No	1,017	761	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,792
	Subtotal		1,017	761	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,792
Botswana	Dukwe	No	555	9	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	593
	Other	No	167	8	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	211
	Subtotal		722	17	65	-	-	-	-	-	-	804
Lesotho	Other	No	233	280	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	519
	Subtotal		233	280	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	519
Madagascar	Other	No	180	112	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	305
	Subtotal		180	112	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	305
Comoros	Other	No	42	9	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	53
	Subtotal		42	9	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	53
Mauritius	Other	No	10	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
	Subtotal		10	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Total			787,439	284,923	35,865	6,326,834	384,570		146			7,819,777

Notes: *In Democratic Republic of the Congo, IDP figures are as of 30 November 2021 and IDP returnees are not reported in 2022; ***other' in the location refers to any known location other than camp or settlement sites, covering both urban and rural areas; ***self-settled refers to the individuals without available information such as their names and locations, and their locations are categorised to be 'unknown'; those by location in Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Zimbabwe could be different from the numbers operation report due to inconsistency in proGres v4.

Strategy to Address the Regional Data Gaps

In line with the efforts to enhance the regional data quality as outlined in the 4-year DIMA strategy, the following steps have been achieved:

- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between UNFPA and UNHCR to strengthen the regional cooperation between UNFPA and UNHCR in data and capacity development. Also, enable the inclusion of persons of concern in the national systems. In the end, the MoU aims to enhance regional data quality.
- A harmonized regional dataset has also been shared with the country representatives. The harmonized regional dataset serves as a data inventory tool and informs programmatic decision-making on data collection methodologies. It means that any data collection for surveys in the region will first look at the dataset to see if the data expected to collect were already collected in the existing data collection exercises. The implementation of the harmonized regional dataset will result to:
 - **Avoid duplication in the data collection exercises.** For example, the collection of age in surveys and proGres (registration) will lead to duplication and inconsistency because the age that the refugee will provide at the registration will be different from the age that the same refugee will provide during survey data collection.
 - **Streamline the region's data collection process.** The collected data should be re-used for further regional exercises instead of collecting new data on the same information. The reuse of the existing data for other activities will enhance the quality of the existing data.
 - **Establish coherence/synergies in the data collection approaches** in the region to avoid isolated data collection approaches.
- A data-sharing agreement has also been signed with IOM to have reliable data on identifying the persons of concern involved in the cross-border movements in the Southern Africa region. Reliable and comprehensive data on refugees and other persons of concern is central to UNHCR's Data Transformation Strategy 2020-2025. Accurate data and analysis on cross-border movements will underpin the Office's ability to ensure protection, deliver assistance, advocate support from the international community, and leverage solutions.

Population Data Analysis

Regional Bureau for Southern Africa

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United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

UNHCR, Regional Bureau of Southern Africa

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Contact

UNHCR RBSA DIMA, rsarb@unhcr.org;

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