

12/31/2023

# ANGOLA

## REGISTRATION REPORT

### 2023



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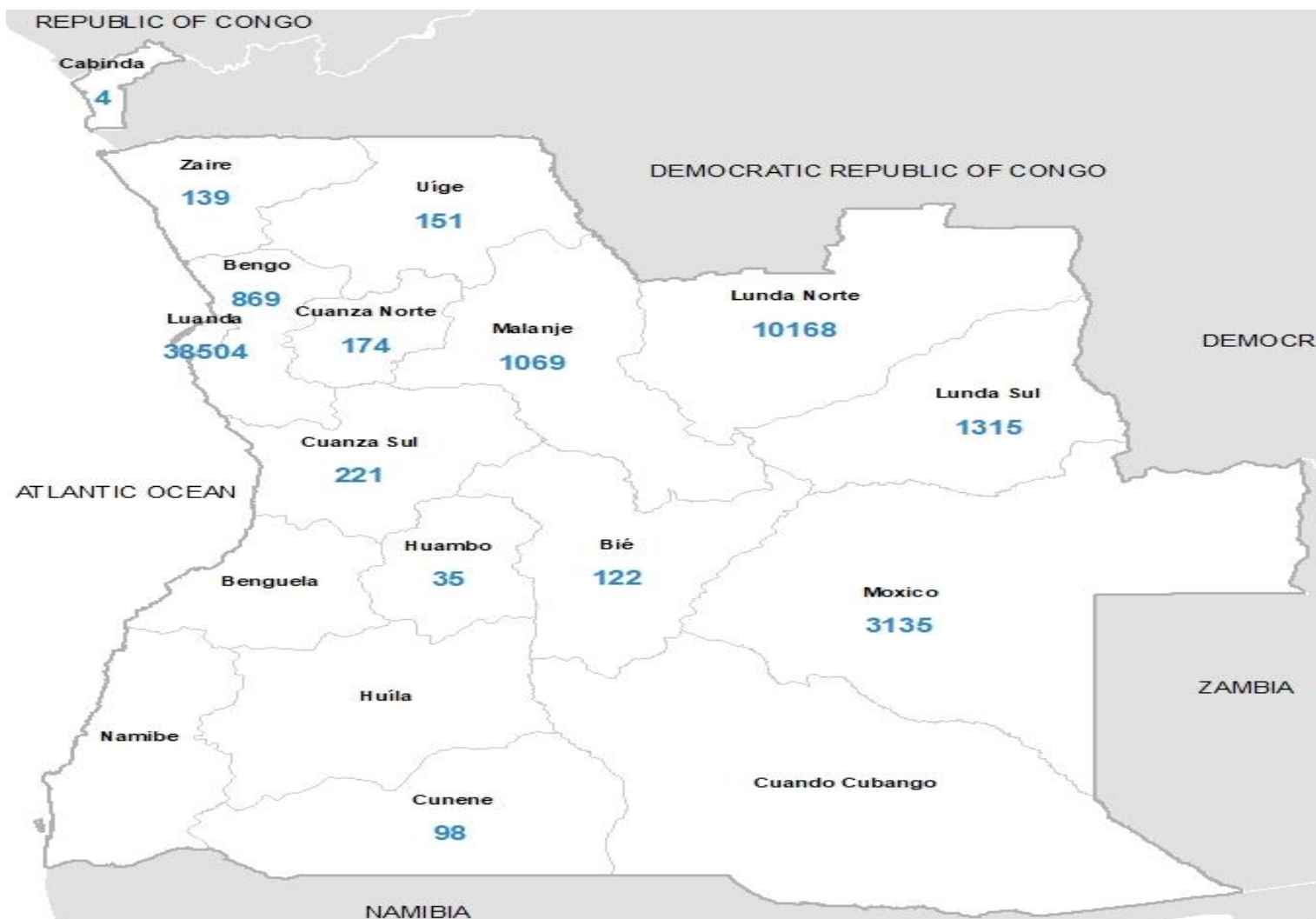


Fig 1: Total Population of Concern in Angola by geographical location (Dec 2022)

## BACKGROUND:

UNHCR has been in Angola for 43 years since the signing of the 'Accord de Siege' in February 1977. During this time, UNHCR has played an important role in the history of Angola such as leading the repatriation of Angolans who fled the long civil war. With reestablishment of peace in 2002, the Government of Angola asked for UNHCR support to facilitate repatriation of Angolan refugees. After voluntarily repatriation took place, from 2003 until 2015, more than 523,000 Angolan refugees returned, more than half coming from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). From 2015 to 2016, UNHCR Angola operation focused on urban refugees and asylum seekers. In 2017, influx of refugees fleeing Kasai region in DRC forced the operation to scale up. The Field Office Dundo was established and, eventually, the Lovua Settlement in Lundo Norte. Currently, there are more than **56,000** refugees and asylum seekers (25,522 refugees and 30,280 asylum-seekers) in Angola spread over provinces such as Luanda and Lunda Norte. These refugees represent a multitude of countries such as the DRC, Rwanda, Mauritania and others. They are in several provinces across Angola with majority residing in Luanda and Lunda Norte. UNHCR is a key observer of the National Council for Refugees (CNR) and works with several partners on the ground to ensure that refugees and person at risk of statelessness are protected and have access to livelihood and durable solutions. These asylum-seekers backlog has been pending before 2015. RSD has been suspended before 2015 and yet to resume.

## TYPES OF CASELOADS:

### REGULAR CASELOAD:

This constitute of more than 80% of the Angola caseload. Majority of these caseloads are not in proGres database and doesn't have disaggregation of data. The regular caseload data is provided by the government on request and doesn't reflect the real picture of this population on the ground. However, with ongoing registration exercise, we expect to have disaggregated data for this caseload with details on their profile and specific needs for better intervention, response, and case management. It comprises of around 47,000 refugees, asylum-seekers, and few others of concern from DRC, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Rwanda, Sierra Leone and other countries who has been in Angola between 5-30 years. They are residing mostly in urban location. 82% of the total urban caseload reside in Luanda.

In June 2023, from 6th to 10th cross-fertilization mission Go and See was conducted by UNHCR and Government of Angola to Mozambique with purpose of exchange the experiences and observe the good practice between UNHCR and Government of Mozambique on registration and documentation process of refugees and asylum-seekers as well as the interoperability between UNHCR proGres database and government database for issuing the travel document to the refugees. The objective of the mission was for the government of Angola to have one to one meeting and discussion with the government of Mozambique to understand how the government of Mozambique is handling the process of registration and documentation for refugees and asylum-seekers as well as the interoperability system they have in place between UNHCR database and government database. UNHCR Angola role was to accompany the mission of the government of Angola to facilitate and coordinate the mission in coordination with UNHCR Mozambique to show the areas of good practice in relation to refugees and asylum-seekers and explore the possibility of adapting them in Angola.

One month after the Mozambique mission, on 28 July 2023 GoA invited UNHCR for Solemn Ceremony of Launch of General Registration in Angola with the symbolic handing over of 20 new refugee cards to the refugee community leaders.

General Registration has reopened after 8 years since GoA stopped asylum process in 2015. The registration process, which has been underway since August 9, 2023, covering two registration sites between Rangel and Viana in Economic Zone in Luanda capital of the country will register and issue new documentation to refugees and asylum seekers registered in the Angolan government's database and UNHCR proGres database from Kasai case who will also benefit.

Government of Angola jointly with UNHCR organized registration to vulnerable persons in Viana community center ensuring that all refugees without capacity mobility benefit the registration and consequently valid documentation during the process. During the exercise 78 vulnerable persons were registered.

Since beginning of ongoing registration until 31 Dec 2023, more than 1.041 refugees were registered and are holders of new ID Card, with great emphasis on the refugees from (Ivory Coast, RDC, Chad, Cameroon, Algeria and Uganda), the basic information such as biodata including biometric, and pictures have been collected during registration. GoA is working to issue documentation not only to the refugee's principal applicant but also to all family members who have been registered into household.

UNHCR Angola protection team have been working in more than 450 cessation clause files provided by GoA in 2022 with purpose of understanding in which basis and what kind of information government of Angola has used to determine cessation those who falls under cessation clause declared to Rwandese, Liberians and Sierra Leone during the registration in 2021 from May until Nov. Based on the GoA report, 99% of those falls under cessation clause didn't want to go back rather stay here under residence permit or on visa.

Based on DIMA recommendation during its mission to Angola around Sept 2022, registration team in coordination with protection team requested creation of second proGres BU called Angola- HCR with purpose to record the PoCs being assisted by UNHCR and through its partners in Luanda and its surrounding to record in the database as "Others of

Concern” for better tracking and intervention that will help us in better case management, though there have been already some cases registered for the regular caseload in the past in proGres especially for the cases of possible durable solution and vulnerable in Luanda and the surrounding areas. Both Lunda Norte and Luanda regular caseload lists was uploaded into the new proGres BU at reception level.

Due fact that GoA used to provide the statistics for this caseload but without any disaggregation of data. UNHCR is expecting to have regular caseload disaggregation data based on ongoing general registration exercise conducted by GoA.

### KASAI CASELOAD:

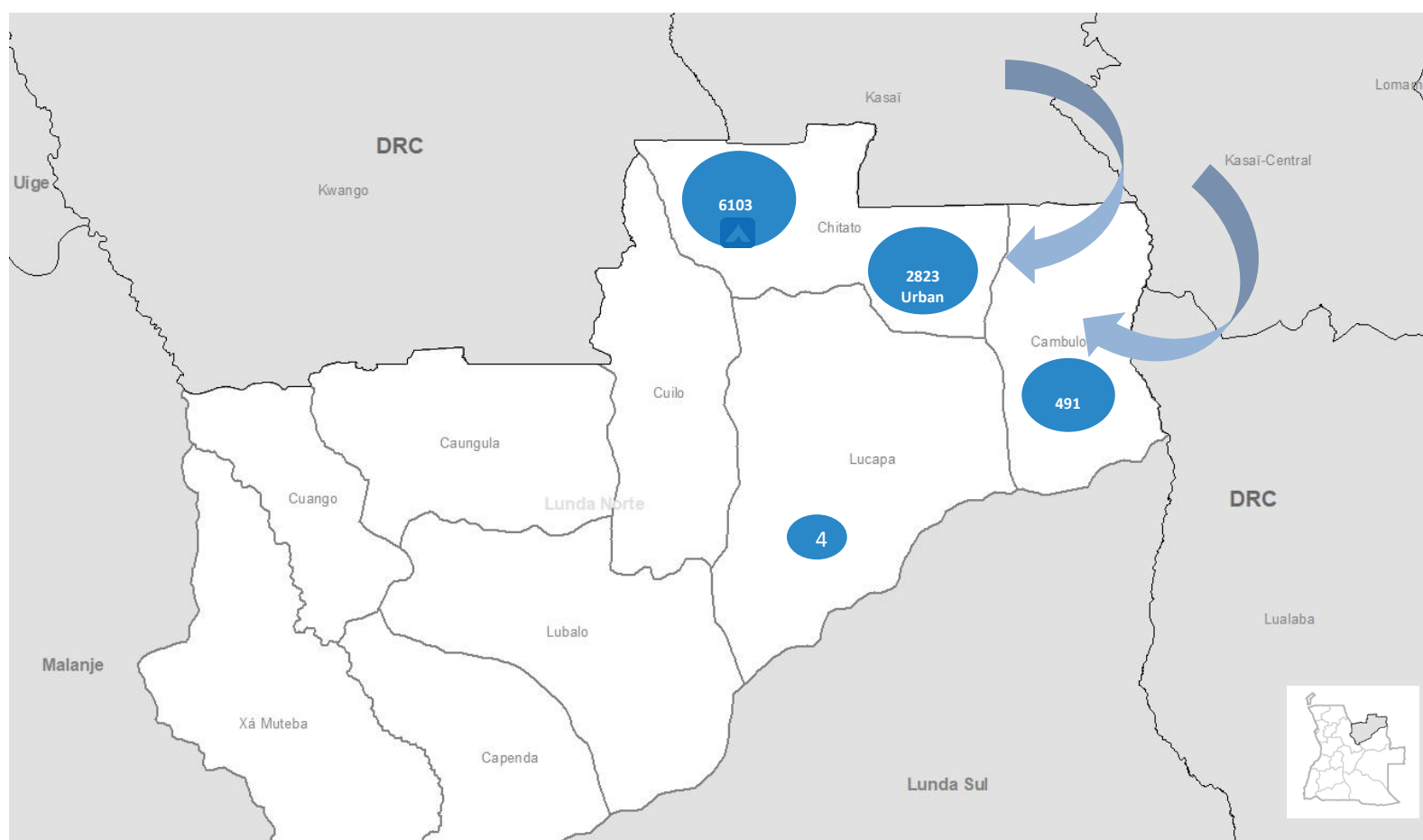
At the onset of the emergency in March 2017 triggered by the outbreak of the violence in Kasai region between autochthone militia and the central government in Kinshasa, UNHCR and the government of Angola (GoA) jointly started an individual biometric registration process which allowed to register as of May 7, 2020 , 38,765 Individuals in 11,114 Household. The average family size was then around 4. Among them 2,203 (almost 6%) have been registered under new birth registration. 91% were registered as new arrival while 3% as In-situ (Check Fig 3). In-situ registration reason had been applied to register individual who were in the country of asylum before the outbreak of the violence, children born in the country of asylum who showed at the registration center aged of 1 and above or people who waited many years to be registered.

98% of this population came from the province of Kasai in the territories of Kasai Longatshimo and Lovua Longatshimo and Tshikapa. Mainly from the city/village of Kamako 54%, Sumbala 13 %, Cinq 7% and Mayanda 4%.

The first individual was biometrically registered on 1 June 2017. GoA suspended new arrivals registration at the end of July 2017. After this period, new arrival registration was allowed only under family reunification circumstances. The figure of new arrivals dropped significantly after July 2017, but the process continued to take place even at a slow pace mainly during the relocation from the transit centers to the new settlement in Lovua. Last relocation occurred in January 2019.

The GoA has also authorized some adhoc campaigns of new arrivals registration always under family reunification circumstances over the past 3 years until it was completely banned by the authorities in Q4 2018. Only children and elderly persons were eligible for this exercise. However, on case by case and based on their vulnerability criteria, 220 adults between 18 and 59 years old have been registered, from which 130 have returned to DRC. The fig 7 shows the relationship between the newly registered and the Focal point of the family (previously called Head of Household). The spontaneous departure in Q3 2019 created a new dynamic and facilitated the registration of new arrivals, still under family reunification circumstances. UNHCR and GoA took this opportunity of being continuously in the settlement to reinforce their capacity and reduce the registration backlog. 989 individuals (newborns not included) have been registered during this period (check fig 4). The fact that the refugees were going back to DRC also eased their registration. For instance, 405 individuals among the 989 are now returnees and do not live in Angola anymore

Fig 2: Refugees originating from DRC Kasai region breakdown by location



The report will focus mostly on the registration trends of Kasai caseload as the regular caseload data has been same since 2019 with government not providing the statistics. The regular caseload data doesn't have data disaggregated by age and gender as well as there have been almost no updates on any changes in registration apart from the ones UNHCR is in touch with.

The above map depicts the Kasai population geographical location within Lunda Norte. They mostly originate from Kasai region of DRC and majority are centered around Chitato.

## REGISTRATION TRENDS:

For the Kasai caseload, though GoA suspended regular registration in 2017 and remaining registration under family reunification in 2018 though change in the family composition is being updated in ProGres database. UNHCR has the custody of the Kasai caseload database and is responsible for updating the records and continue some registration activities:

- i. Continuous registration of newborn babies
- ii. Inactivation of deceased family member in the database
- iii. Transfer of family members between households in the camp (marriage, family merge, split etc.)
- iv. Enrollment of bio-metric system for refugees aged 3 years and above.
- v. Issuance of proof of registration
- vi. Voluntary Repatriation
- vii. Spontaneous Departure
- viii. Deactivation of family due to no-show during GFD
- ix. Specific Needs

However, there has been no other verification conducted to confirm the existing population figure being reported as it is based on just the family composition change of the existing population.

- Around 35,000 DRC from Kasai region came to Lunda Norte, Angola fleeing conflict.
- Kasai caseload consists of total of 2282 HHs/ 8926 individuals.
- Majority of Kasai caseload comes from Tshikapa in Kasai region.
- 51% are female while 49% are male.
- 37% of the total population is female headed household.
- More than half (57%) of the population is children while adults comprise of 40% and elderly 3%.
- Around Sep 2017 Lovua settlement was established.
- 30% of Kasai caseload still stay in out of camp setting.
- Average family size is 4.

Kasai caseload is further divided into two types of caseloads:

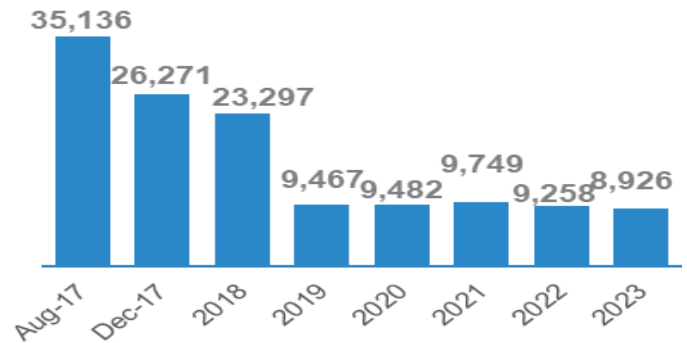
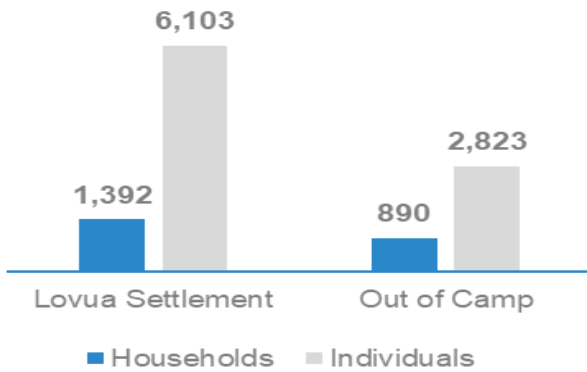
## KASAI CASELOAD DETAILS:

- i. **Camp based caseload:** There is a settlement called Lovua in Lunda Norte for which UNHCR database is being updated to reflect the change in family composition (e.g., newborn babies, death, marriages etc.). This accounts for 70 % of the Kasai caseload based on UNHCR database. These population are monitored by UNHCR and has been part of UNHCR planning, intervention, and assistance. UNHCR provides different services to the refugees residing in Lovua settlement through direct intervention or through its partners. The figure of the population as mentioned above doesn't reflect the real population of the camp as there are lot of non-registered families and individuals who are staying in camp but are not provided any sort of recognition.

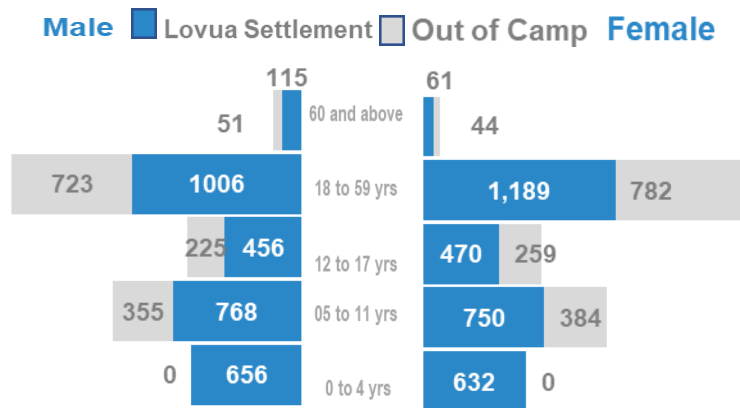
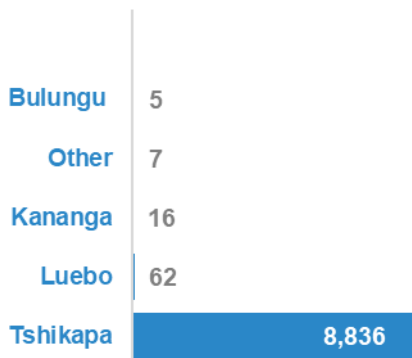
They are not provided with any sort of assistance. WFP provides food to the refugees in Lovua who are registered in UNHCR database. Only handful of vulnerable non-registered person of concerns are provided with food and other assistance exceptionally. The non-registered person of concerns was identified during the protection assessment conducted in March 2021. There are about 1,200 non-registered persons staying in the Lovua settlement.

- ii. **Out of Camp Caseload:** Out of the total Kasai caseload, 30 % percent are staying out of camp. Among them, most of them are staying in Dundo and its vicinity while some are staying in areas close to the settlement in the host community. The population reflected in the report for this community is based on the database record of 2018 as there has been no update of any family composition change for them. The figure depicted is not showing the real picture of this population. This population has not been supported and provided food since 2018 and are not in touch with UNHCR. Therefore, there is no record of new births, deaths, spontaneous departures etc for this category.

**Camp vs Out of Camp Caseload** **Kasai Caseload Trend (2017-2023)**



**Kasai Caseload Origin** **Population Demographical Breakdown**



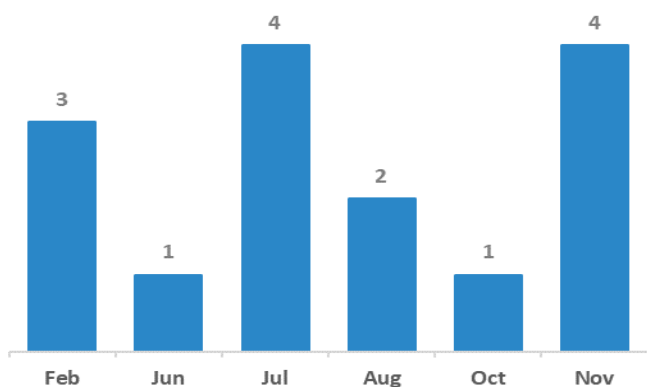
**NEW BIRTH REGISTRATION:**

The registration of new births has always been part of the registration activities carried out by colleagues responsible for registration in the Kasai camp. Even though regular registration was suspended by the GoA, birth registration continued for this group of cases. However, the new birth registrations only concern the camp population. The births mentioned in the table below are those registered by families in the UNHCR ProGres database, which is different from civil registration (issuance of a birth certificate – cedula) and only concerns the population based in the camps. No birth certificate has been issued since 2019, and the registration of newborns was done solely on the basis of the clinic's birth notification form. However, after continued advocacy from UNHCR, this year around 252 children in the camp have received birth certificates, which is not 100% of the backlog, but at least the issuance of birth certificates is happening in batches. We hope that the old backlog of birth certificates will be cleared by 2024. Some families remain outside the camp even if they are registered at the camp address and do not register their children on time. There were around 15 children in situ registered who were born before or mid-2022 but did not come to register until 2023. 2 babies registered in 2023 had died, and 23 babies were repatriated, of these, 16 were born this year and 7 were on-site recordings. A total of 285 babies and 15 in situ were registered during the year 2023 for camp-based cases.

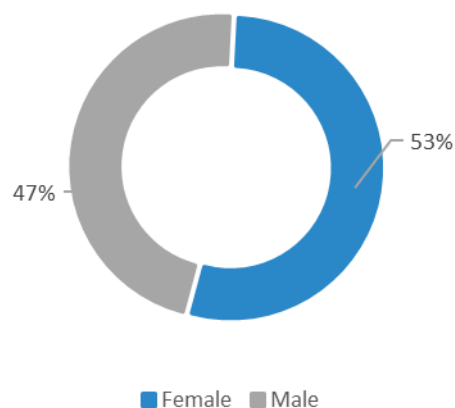
**Births by Month** **Breakdown by Gender**

71

### In-Situ registration by Month



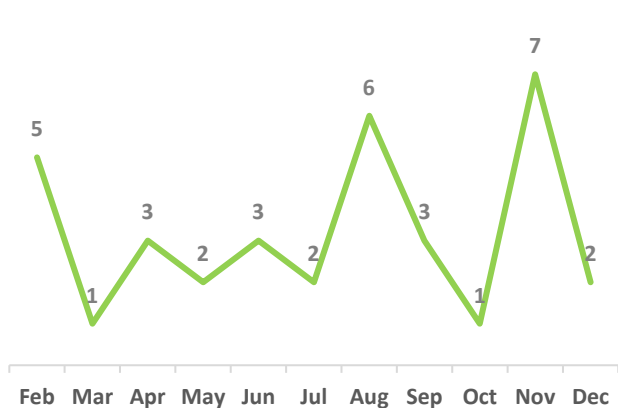
### Breakdown by Gender



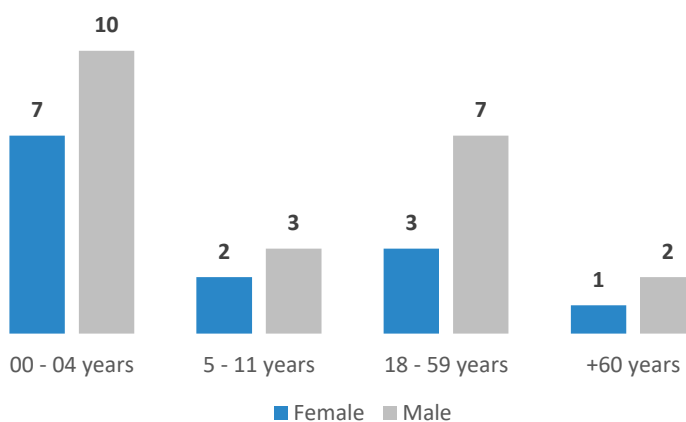
## DEATH:

Like birth registration, death information is being regularly updated in the database. UNHCR partner IEIA sends the death list monthly to the registration Unit along with the death referral form based on which the registration Unit inactivates the deceased person. Given Lovua context, acquiring a death certificate is very complicated, so as an accountability and confirmation, we ensure IEIA signs the death undertaking form for our record. There have been 34 deaths recorded in 2023, with the majority from adults and infants age group for camp-based caseload, while for Urban caseload, 1 death was recorded.

### Deaths by Month



### Breakdown by Age Group and Gender

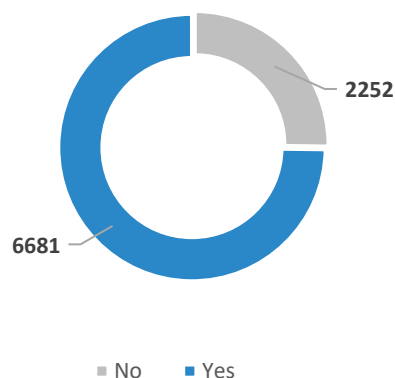
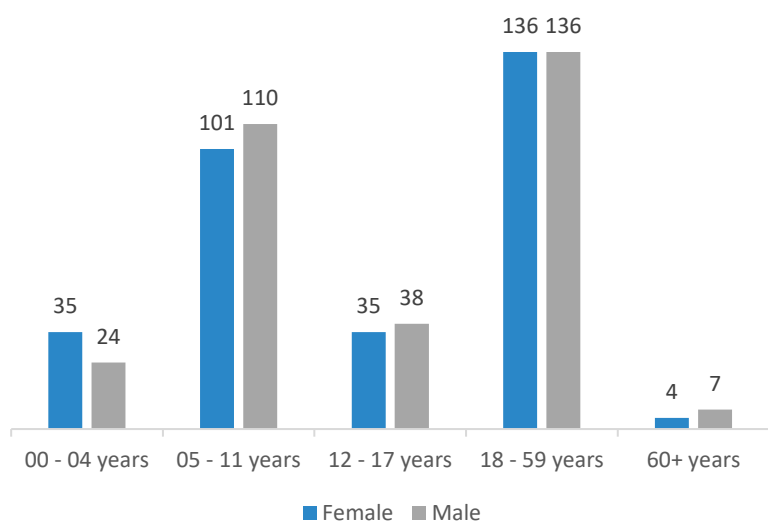


## BIO-METRIC ENROLMENT:

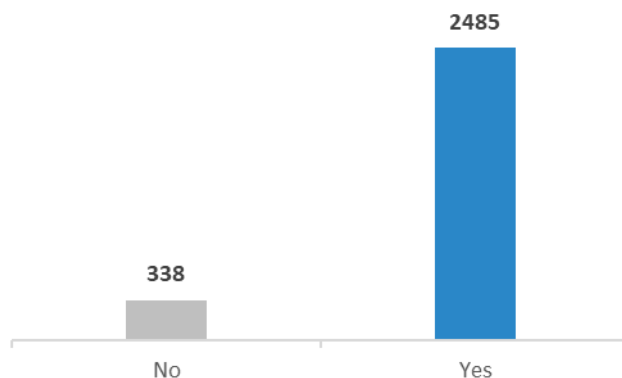
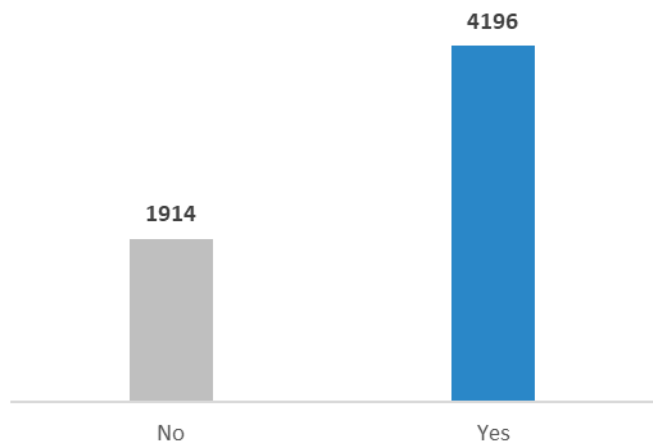
Bio-metric enrolment is done by registration team to refugees who are aged 3 years and above. For Lovua settlement refugees, all of them who are 3 years and above are bio-metrically enrolled. Anybody who turns 3 years are enrolled in biometrics during the regular registration visit that is conducted on a weekly basis. For urban Kasai caseload also, they

were bio-metrically enrolled as all the cases were enrolled biometrically during the registration upon arrival. The initial registration was conducted in ProGres v3 version and later the data from v3 was migrated to proGres v4. During the migration of data, it was realized that lots of biometric data were lost during the migration process. The urban caseload biometric update was not possible due to problem in contacting them, however, registration team has been updating the biometric of the refugees staying in the camp.

**Biometric Enrollment in 2023** **Total Bio-Metric Enrollment**



**Biometric Enrollment in Lovua Settlement** **Bio-Metric Enrollment in Urban Kasai caseload**



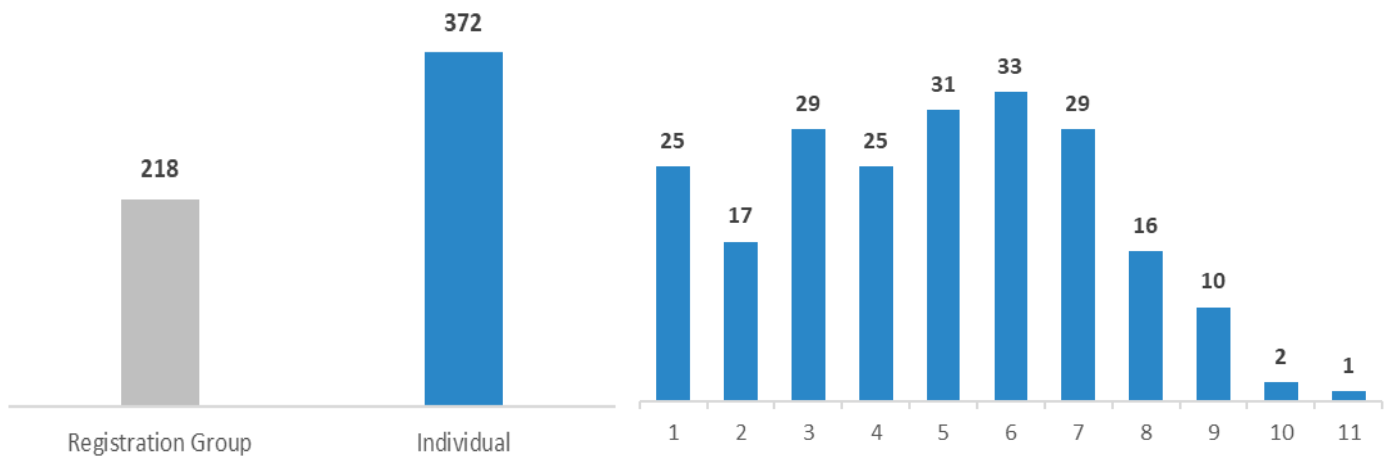
**ISSUANCE OF PROOF OF REGISTRATION:**

All families registered in the Kasai records database based in Lovua camp receive proof of registration. All adult family members receive proof of registration, which serves as identification. As the issuance of an identity card was not authorized by the GoA, it constitutes a major document allowing these refugees to access different services inside and outside the camp. Proof of registration is used to distribute food to refugees based in Lovua camp. If they lose the document, they must properly justify the new issuance or wait 12 months before a new one is issued.

Anyone aged 18 comes to the registration team to ask for proof of registration, and the team will issue it. This year, 372 people from 218 households received proof of registration. The process of issuing refugee identity cards to all Angolan refugees, including those in Kasai, began in 2023 by the Angolan government, mainly in the capital Luanda.

**Proof of Registration Issued 2023** **Issuance by Family Size**

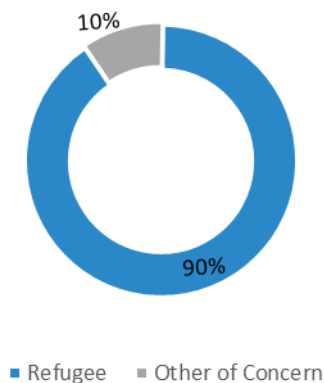




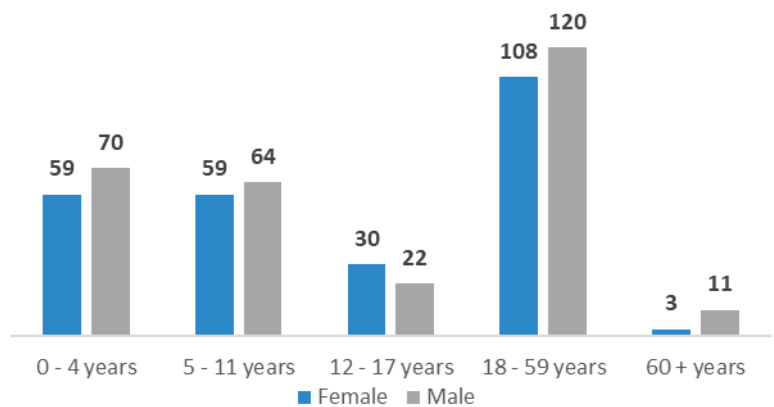
## VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION/ RESETTLEMENT

The voluntary repatriation of Congolese refugees from Kasai caseload which was resumed in October 2023 in which UNHCR and partners assisted **546** refugees including **59** others of concern who were dependent of refugees were repatriated to the DRC through voluntary repatriation organized by UNHCR, GoA, and partners. For the first time, the refugees were transported by air.

Volrep Breakdown by Legal Status



Volrep Breakdown by Age Group and Gender

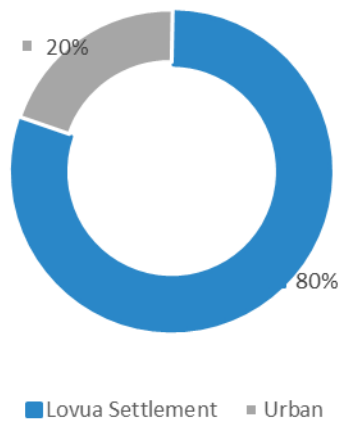


## SPONTANEOUS REPATRIATION

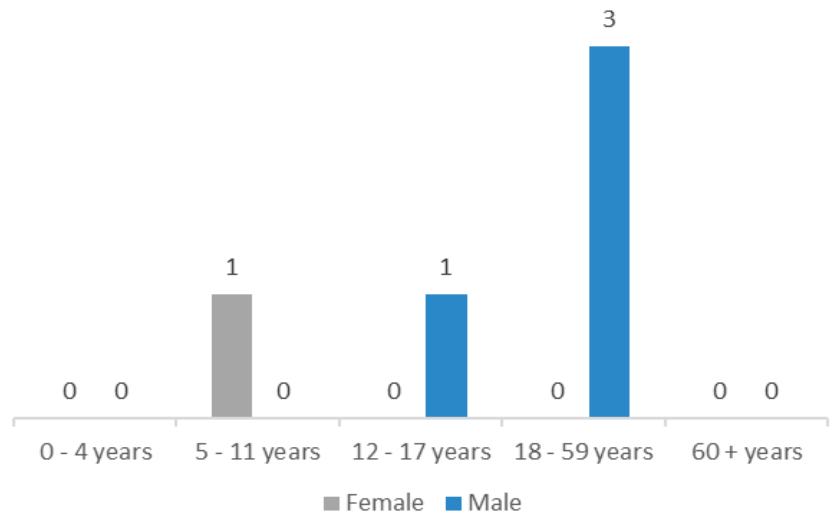
In the past, there has been lot of cases of spontaneous repatriation alerted by GoA and were inactivated in the database. However, UNHCR now verifies it properly before inactivating them. Spontaneous departure is reported by camp management, families, UNHCR DRC and other sources in the camp. This year **5** individual's spontaneous departure were reported by UNHCR DRC based on the bio-metric verification conducted for IDPs in Kasai region of DRC from the Kasai caseload. Out of them, 97% of the individuals who left were from the urban Kasai caseload and mostly from Dundo surroundings. All the individuals who went back were from Kasai province. These are known spontaneous departure especially for urban Kasai caseload as for the settlement basically camp management, partners and other sources including family sometimes inform about the departure to DRC from the camp. We expect more individuals registered

under urban Kasai caseload to have repatriated in the past. UNHCR DRC will be sharing the list of Kasai refugees as they identify more Kasai caseload refugees from Angola during their biometric enrolment for the IDPS.

### Breakdown by Location



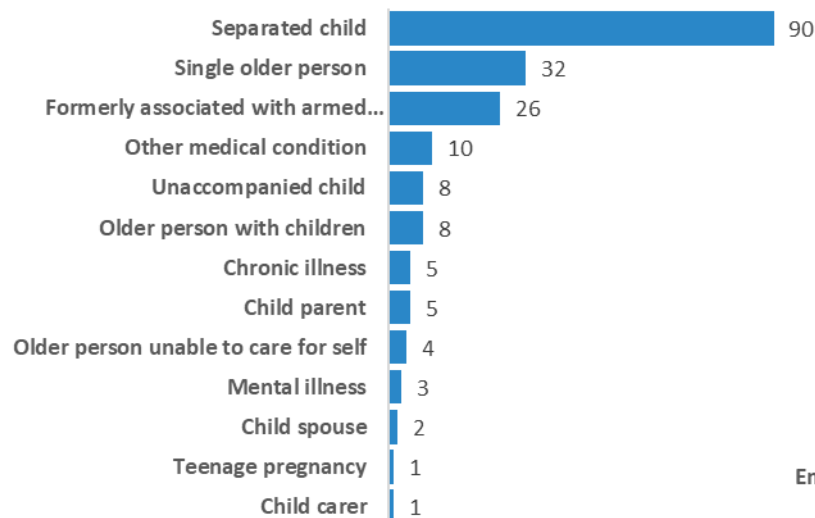
### Breakdown by Age Group and Gender



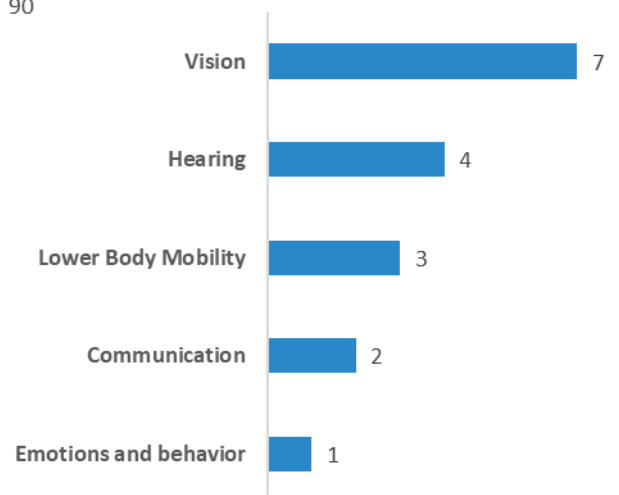
## SPECIFIC NEEDS

The specific needs have been recorded and updated in the UNHCR database for the Lovua settlement caseload based on the protection assessment carried out in the month of March 2021 and during the continuous registration activity.

### Types of specific needs



### Types of Disability



## DEACTIVATION OF FAMILY:

General Food distribution is also a helpful tool to monitor the presence of the refugees in the settlement where food assistance is provided to the persons we care for. There is a SOP outlining following criteria:

- i. Families who miss out three consecutive food distribution will have all its members kept on hold:

If the family doesn't show up for 3 continuous food distribution, registration staff will change their status from "ACTIVE" to "HOLD". They will still be counted in the monthly population figure but will not be reflected in the monthly food distribution database.

- ii. Families who miss out six consecutive food distribution will have the household status changed from "HOLD" to "INACTIVE":

Any families who don't show up for 6 continuous food distribution will be inactivated by registration staff in proGres as well as the physical file. After 3 consecutive GFDs no show, these families are already on "HOLD" and if they don't show up for 3 more consecutive GFDs they are automatically inactivated by registration staff.

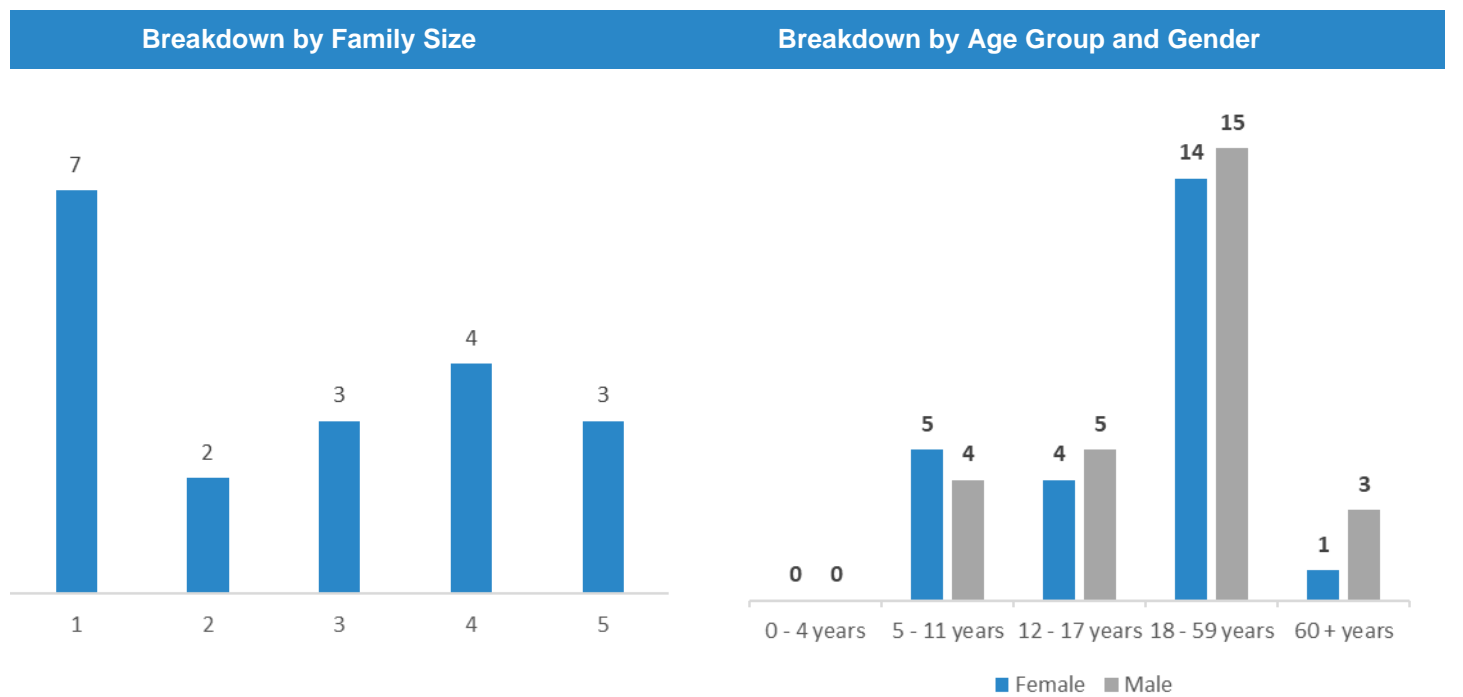
In any case, if the family appears for GFD or during protection monitoring after 3 consecutive GFDs after already being changed to hold status, they need to be thoroughly assessed by protection to verify and confirm if they can be considered for GFD and their process status can be changed to active on case-by-case basis.

Therefore, while the inactivation has an individual impact on the registration record of an individual, it is done on family basis since it is based on the registration group.

There is no obligation for the group focal point to show up at the food distribution site to receive the assistance. Any adult within the family in possession of the ration card is eligible to receive their monthly ration for the entire registration group.

While inactivation for no show at the general food distribution is done on Family / registration group basis, reactivation relies on individual physical verification. It happened upon recommendation of the protection team.

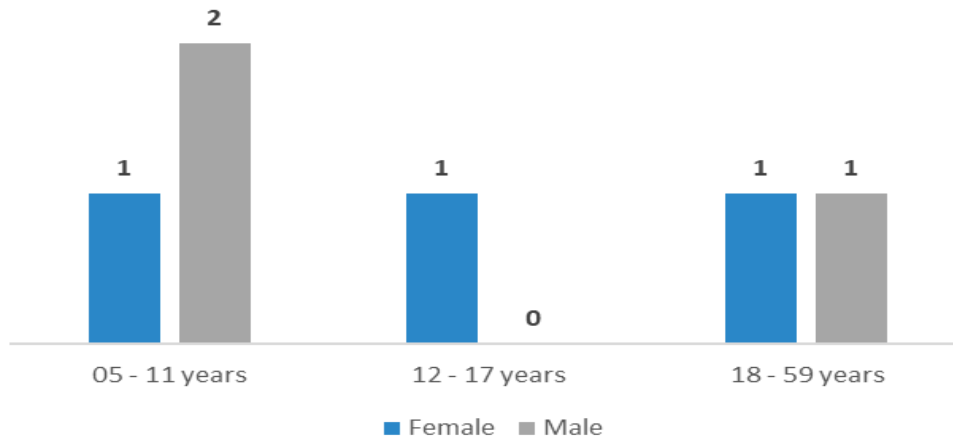
This year **51** individuals from **19** families have been inactivated while there are number of households that are currently on kept hold. If those families don't appear during next GFD some of them will be inactivated.



## MOVEMENT FROM URBAN TO CAMP

Occasionally, there are Kasai caseload registered as urban who comes and stays in camp stating the difficulty in managing their day-to-day life. These group decided to stay in urban area when relocation exercise was started for Kasai refugees to move to camp since 2017 till 2018. Especially, due to COVID-19, lot of families or individuals requested for allowing to provide shelter and other support as received by Lovua settlement caseload. These type of families or individuals are assessed thoroughly by protection in coordination with partner and monitored for certain period to confirm if they really are staying in camp. After proper assessment and confirmation, protection requests registration team through referral form to move them to camp so they also get the benefit like the refugees who are based in settlement. **6** individuals moved from urban setting to Lovua settlement in 2023.

## Breakdown by Age Group and Gender



## GENERAL FOOD DISTRIBUTION

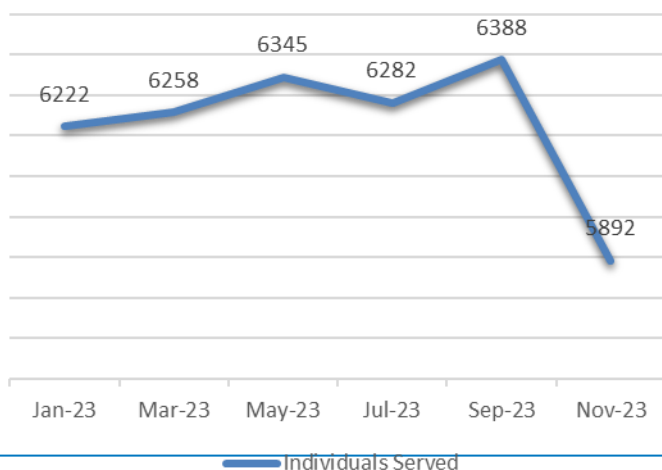
Food distribution happens once in two months in Lovua settlement since COVID-19 started. Only the refugees with Lovua settlement address are eligible for food assistance. WFP provides food assistance. UNHCR supports food distribution for the refugees staying in Lovua in coordination with WFP/ WVI. Apart from the refugees registered in proGres for Lovua cases, vulnerable individuals who are not registered but are staying in camp either as separate family or with registered family members are provided with food ration under special assistance programme. The vulnerable individual list that are eligible for food distribution are identified through joint assessment of UNHCR protection and WFP/WVI team. Vulnerable individuals are provided with PAM card which is like ration card and updated after every distribution. These vulnerable individuals are told to come on the last day of the food distribution to not mix with the regular distribution.

All the registered refugee's adult family members who come forward with ration card and/ or proof of registration are provided with food assistance. Ration card is provided by UNHCR which includes the registration group number and the name of focal point. Once the ration card is full, the new ration card is issued to the family.

Before every distribution, assistance plan is prepared in proGres v4 and the up-to-date refugee population figure from UNHCR database is uploaded into the GDT. GDT (Global Distribution Tool) is a standard UNHCR database tool for food distribution that combines proGres and BIMS to verify the identities of all the persons coming to collect the assistance. The distribution manifest is prepared using GDT tool and the statistics of the PoCs distributed with food is prepared based on the updated record from GDT. After the completion of GFD, registration staff closes the distribution plan and synchronize the GDT records back to proGres v4.

WFP sets the date for food distribution and informs partners a week before the distribution. They are also involved in monitoring during the food distribution process. They also conduct quarterly PDM (Post Distribution Monitoring) to get the feedback from PoCs on GFD.

### Food Distribution Trend by Individuals



### Food Distribution Trend by Households

