

Meheba Refugee Settlement



Achievements' Report

January - December 2021

Overview

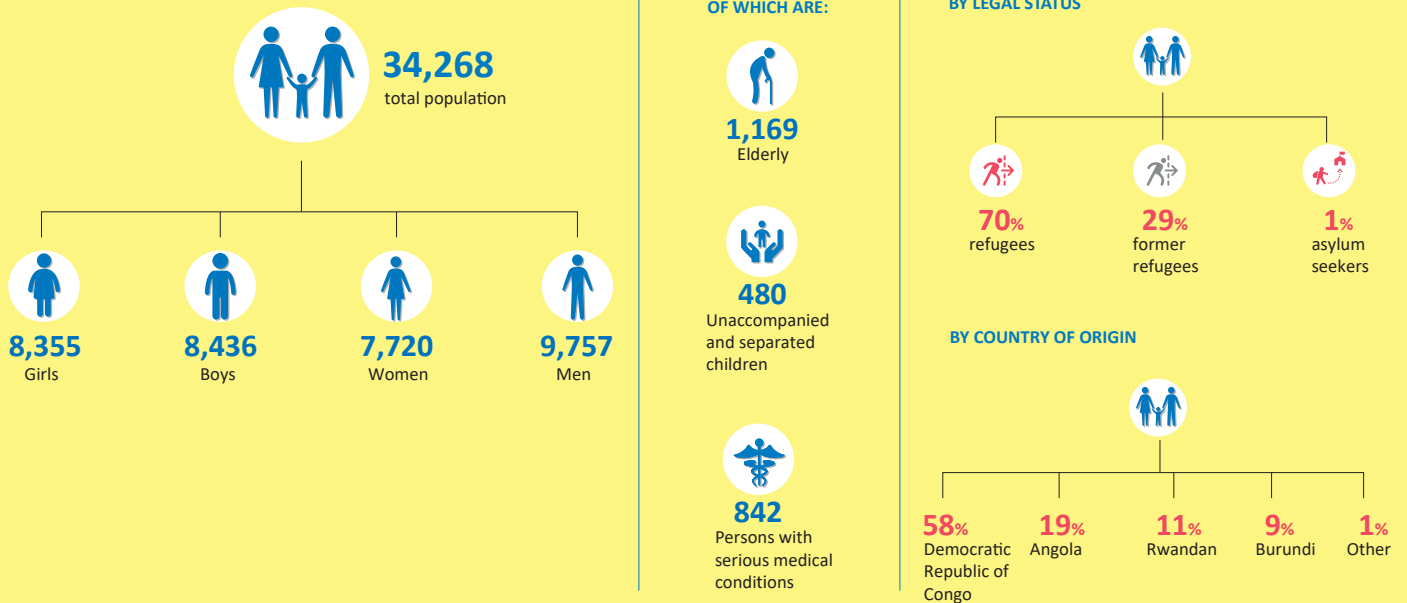
- Established in 1971 in Kalumbila District.
- Covers an area of 720 km², same size as Singapore.
- Demarcated into eight blocks from A to H.
- Has 13 schools (3 community, 8 primary and 2 secondary), 7 clinics, 2 police posts, 3 transit centers, 2 safe houses for children at risk and 2 center for women at risk.
- 29 actors are implementing projects and providing assistance.
- Civil society including faith-based organizations, private sector, academic institutions as well as individuals conduct various ad-hock activities, provide support and assistance.

Strategic objectives

- Inclusion of refugees in national structures.
- Access and provision of quality education.
- Access to livelihoods and economic inclusion opportunities.
- Seek durable solutions including vulnerable repatriation, local integration and resettlement.



Population



Interventions and partners presence

Sectors	Partners	Link to Sustainable Development Goal (SDGs)
CCCM/Shelter/ NFI	Commissioner for Refugees (COR), UNHCR	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
Development	UNDP, Chief Mumena, JICA, AAR Japan, Trident Foundation, First Quantum Minerals, Lumwana Trust Fund, Czech Aid, People In Need	8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH, 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
Education	Ministry of General Education, UNHCR, UNICEF, Brave Heart, UNESCO, Pestalozzi, umwana Trust Fund, Kids Hope Foundation, People In Need	4 QUALITY EDUCATION
Health/Nutrition	Ministry of Health, UNHCR, Brave Heart, ORBIS –Eye, UNFPA, WHO, USAID, Johnson, Snow Ink Safe, Johnson Snow Ink Discover, PEPFAR, Churches Association Zambia	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
Livelihoods	UNHCR, CARITAS Czech Republic, Brave Heart, World Vision, ADRA, AAR, Japan-development, Kids Hope Foundation	8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH
Logistic	Action Africa Help Zambia, UNHCR	12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
Protection	Commissioner for Refugees (COR), UNHCR, Ministry of Community Development and Social Services, IOM	5 GENDER EQUALITY, 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES, 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS
WASH	Department of Water Resource Development, Local Authority (Kaoma District Council), World Vision, UNICEF, Ministry of Health, UNHCR, KFW Development Bank	6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

Key highlights

- 225 persons met by professional GVB counselors at One Stop Center.
- 367 vulnerable children in alternative care arrangements monitored and supported bi-weekly.
- 184 persons housed at Transit Centers.
- 6,744 children enrolled at schools, out of which 889 are supported with education.
- 10 persons trained in energy stove production and empowered with start up support (3,000 kwach each).
- 5.3 tons of polished rice produced and sold to cooperatives.
- 6,600 persons provided with enhanced access to water.
- 1, 883 sanitation platforms were constructed (UNICEF), benefiting 1,882 families.
- One classroom block (UNHCR), one transit center dormitory (UNHCR), 34 temporary latrines (UNICEF), 12 bathing sheets (UNICEF), 3 waste bins and waste bays (UNICEF), 2 washing basins (UNICEF) maternity wing (CHAZ), 13 VIP toilets (UNICEF), 3 teachers' houses (UNDP), 7 menstrual hygiene rooms (UNHCR) and one police post (UNDP) were constructed.
- 41 km of road were rehabilitated in local integration area (UNDP) and 1 km of road was connecting the administration block was rehabilitated (Zambia National Services, Governmental Officer's contributions).
- One latrine and shower block (Brave Heart), 14 VIP toilets at schools (UNICEF), skills center (Czech Aid), 4 play parks (UNHCR) and isolation center (UNHCR) are under construction.
- Admin office and two toilets (UNHCR), two classroom blocks (UNHCR), Guest House (UNHCR), women skills center (UNHCR) and one classroom block (PIN) were rehabilitated. Seven solar systems are being installed at schools (UNHCR).
- 12 teachers' houses (UNHCR), computed lab/library at school (UNHCR), girls' dormitory (UNHCR) and one classroom block (UNHCR) are being rehabilitated.
- 1,593 birth certificates, 2,161 alien cards as well as working permits and civil documentation issued.



Key achievements by sector



Durable solutions

Resettlement

- 306 persons submitted for resettlement.
- 87 families are being considered for resettlement by Finland and Sweden, 22.9 % of them are women and girls at risk.
- 394 persons departed from Meheba to a third asylum country.
- The Resettlement Panel recommended 80 cases comprising 490 persons for resettlement consideration.

Gap:

- 490 persons were identified in need of resettlement during the reporting period.

Voluntary Repatriation

- 15 persons repatriated.
- A total of 4 families comprising 15 individuals successfully assisted to voluntarily return to Burundi and Rwanda. A total of 2 families of 5 individuals under were under the category of others of concern.
- An increase of voluntary repatriation cases is expected in the be coming months due to the believe among refugees that the security situation in their country of getting better.



Protection

Registration

- 3,512 persons registered.
- In November 2020 the settlement faced an influx of 495 asylum-seekers from the Congo, being relocated from the norther borders of Mpulungu and Muombu.

Reception centres

- 1,659 persons benefited from dry food ration and wet feeding.
- 1,659 persons were housed at the transit centers, TC 36, TC 28 and Quarantine Center 29 over the year with 184 accommodated in the end of the year.
- Weekly sensitizations on rights and responsibilities as well as available services are being conducted.
- Eight community staff are employed to cook, clean and provide support to the residents.

Documentation

- 2,552 refugee certificates issued.
- Birth certificates received from the Department of National Registration, Passport and Citizenship were issued for 1,593 children and updated in the database (500 certificates were issued in 2021, the rest were retroactively issued and updated).
- A total of 2,161 (277 were retroactively issued) Alien cards for refugees and others costed by UNHCR were issued facilitate access to governmental services.

Key achievements by sector

Refugee Status Determination (RSD)

- 312 asylum seekers recognized as refugees.
- A total of 502 asylum seekers were interviewed (20 awaiting status).
- 312 persons were recognized as refugees with 62% granted refugee status at 1st instance.
- 172 persons were rejected at first instance.
- The RSD Committee conducted two missions reviewing 50 appeal cases.

Detention and border monitoring

- One mission conducted visiting one detention center, 14 cases were reviewed.
- 140 Somalian nationals detained in Chingola for lack of mobility passes and investors permits were released with interventions from COR and UNHCR.

Community based protection

- 196 community workers (64 women, 132 men).
- Multi Sectoral Rapid Needs Assessment was conducted in February 2021. Sectoral results have support material interventions and advocacy.
- Community workers continue conducting one-on-one sensitization and identification of cases in need of protection interventions in various sectors including child protection, GBV, education, security, health and CBI.
- Female Psycho-Social Consular listed and supported 87 persons in need, including GBV survivors and vulnerable children.
- Transit Center 44, a facility for unaccompanied elderly run by Brave Heart, is currently housing 19 persons, receiving cash grants and being assisted by a caretaker with daily tasks.
- A total of 64 men and 22 women took part in amateur and professional football leagues. All members were supported with affiliation, referee payments and away games with transport by UNHCR. 1 set of 15 jerseys was received (Football Association of Zambia) and 11 balls (personal donation).
- 171 children and youth participated in regular four times a week judo training in the settlement while the top individuals participated in the national league. 133 face masks, 28 hand wash sanitizers (Zambia Judo Association) as well as 20 kimonos, 144 mats with 4 away games supported (UNHCR). 6 judokas were trained on GBV (Zambia Judo Association), 10 judokas attended National Inclusive Sports Festival (National Olympic Committee of Zambia).
- Following revamping the complaint mechanism, a total of 333 complaints were opened, out of which 20 complaints of serious allegations are being addressed by the responsible personnel.

Gap:

- Sponsorship of three football team and one judo team to support their cost to allow them to compete at professional level.
- Unavailability of office space for UNHCR staff and community workers to enhance protection by presence.



Key achievements by sector

Child protection

- 66 unaccompanied, separated and children at risk housed at Safe Havens.
- 145 assessments (33 Best Interest Decisions and 112 BIAs) for vulnerable children were conducted by 30 community workers who were supported with bicycles to enhance their mobility and widen their outreach.
- A total 66 unaccompanied, separated and children at risk, are housed at two Safe Havens, managed by MCDSS and other Brave Heart, UNHCR's operational partner. The children are cared of by God mothers, receive daily meals and have access to education and extra curriculum activities.
- 18 children in group living and 366 children in foster care were monitored on weekly and bi-weekly basis by community workers who ensure basic needs of the children are met and provide support with daily tasks.
- A committal order has been implemented and it is expected that over 300 foster families will have their care arrangements legalized, availing the children and families of safeguarding nets and rights and responsibilities in line with the national framework.
- Trident Collage held their end of the year camp at Safe Haven; Safe Haven was painted, workshops on beads making was held attended by 15 women at risk and building capacity on composting.
- 30 child workers were trained on ZERO Dollars Model for sport and 586 children participated in a large sports event.

Gap:

- To meet the national standard, 20 Child and Youth Care Workers caring for vulnerable unaccompanied and separated children need be certified by a ending a five-week training in the total cost of 400,000 ZMW.



Key achievements by sector

Gender Based Violence (GBV)

- 222 individual GBV cases reported and counselled.
- To enhance prevention and response especially during the COVID-19 pandemic 11 additional monitors were recruited under MCDSS, making the total 23 (12 women, 11 men) in addition to the 41 (25 women, 16 men) volunteers who also work to support these efforts.
- 6,800 individuals were reached with GBV sensitization messages.
- Five men networks with total of 75 members are raising GBV awareness among their follow men and boys by holding regular weekly meetings discussing trends in their community.
- The 4 counsellors at the One Stop Center met 222 persons. The highest number of incidents were of psychosocial and emotional abuse 70%.
- A total of 33 clients were accommodated at the Safe House to respond to their imminent protection risks, they also benefited from counselling and referral to other services.
- 23% of survivors were economically empowered through livelihoods interventions.

Gap:

- One Stop Centre in Zone G is requiring staff to provide effective care for GBV survivors, including the deployment of health personal, police and psycho-social counsellor.



Cash-Based Interventions (CBI)

- 3,863 persons received cash grants.
- Five monitors attended to 828 complaints from families who did not receive their monthly cash.
- Post Distribution Monitoring exercise for all cash programmes was conducted, sampling 172 families. Which found out that 98.3% of the sampled population spent majority of the cash grant on food.

Key achievements by sector

Education

- 889 children supported with education assistance.
- The UNESCO Qualification Passport project has been launched; 142 applications were submitted to obtain the qualification while 45 applicants are being interviewed to determine their qualifications.
- A total of 889 vulnerable students were supported with education assistance by UNHCR, Brave Heart, Pestalozzi and Kids Hope Foundation, including payments of school and examination fees, and provision materials, and groceries in the value of 700 kwacha.
- Seven children with special education needs were sponsored in Kasempa Multi-Disability Boarding School while one student was sponsored at a Skill Centre in Solwezi for excellent students.
- The First Special Needs Unit in the District of Kalumbila and Meheha has been established to target children with specific education needs. Two special education teachers from the MOGE are being deployed.
- 101 (58 men, 43 women) teachers from MOGE and 14 (10 men, 4 women) community teachers provided education to 6,744 (3,416 boys, 3,328 girls) students.
- UNHCR provided 1,025 desks, 280 mattresses, and 9,070 masks to schools as prevention and mitigation measures of the COVID-19 pandemic. 202 tablets for student (UNHCR), 130 hand sanitizers, 26 washing stations (AAR Japan), 21 washing stations (UNHCR), 35 x 20 L disinfectants (UNHCR), 156 handwashing soap (UNHCR), 11 tablets for administration under the Let's read project to monitor literacy performance (USAID), 3 production lines (UNHCR), teaching and learning materials for community schools (UNHCR).
- Seven solar systems installed (UNHCR).
- A total of 5 students (2 girls, 3 boys) were selected for a sponsorship under the Dafi Scholarship, additional 4 students (2 girls, 2 boys) accessed tertiary education in Kenya at the United States international University Africa with the support of Pestalozzi.
- 18 (5 men, 13 women) trained on ECE methodology (UNHCR), 9 (5 men, 4 women) on usage of tablets (MOGE/UNHCR), 9 6 men, 3 women) on data collection for literacy.

Gap:

- One Stop Centre in Zone G is requiring staff to provide effective care for GBV survivors, including the deployment of health personal, police and psycho-social counsellor.

Success Story

Onesphore Murishi, fled the violence in Democratic Republic of Congo without any company, arriving in Meheba 1998. Onesphore is now undertaking an internship attachment at Kanyama First Level Hospital in Lusaka as a Junior Medical Doctor, after being supported by the DAFI programme, obtaining his tertiary education. Onesphore, wishes to give back to his community and believe that nothing is impossible "My aspirations for the future are now bigger than what I ever thought of... I desire to be the first refugee to open a specialized medical facility where other refugees will be employed."



Key achievements by sector



Livelihoods and self-reliance

- 102 youth empowered through livelihood (51 women, 51 men).
- 32 youths (16 women, 16 men) were supported under UNHCR's Youth Initiative Fund with self-reliance youth led projects in agriculture, trading and arts.
- 752 farmers trained sweet potatoes production, enriched in Vitamin A to improve nutrition.
- World Vision Zambia started the implementation of a livelihoods project, targeting 720 ultra-poor households. The households are to receive consumption support for 6 months of 280 ZMW per person per month, be trained and empowered with assets.
- UNHCR and the Czech Republic Development Agency jointly sponsored 70 youths (35 women, 35 men) for skills training at Solwezi Skills Training Institute in tailoring, auto body repair, power electrical, metal fabrication, food production and Bricklaying.
- 51 vegetable farmers were trained (Netherlands Development Organization) and linked to an assured output market with Partners Group (PG) farms, an aggregator that supplies vegetables to the mines.
- 50 women and girls at risk (5 host ,45 refugees) were empowered through UNHCR's interventions with business startup funds for food production, handcrafts, and poultry.
- Caritas Czech Republic and UNHCR 40 small individual businesses (7 from the host community and 33 refugees) were supported with funds, 5,000 ZMW each to help them improve and expand their existing businesses.
- Caritas Czech Republic and UNHCR facilitated the inclusion of 200 farmers (100 refugees and 100 host community members) in the Government farming input subsidy programme, facilitated through 75% from the Government and 25% from UNHCR's cost contributions.
- UNHCR supported 59 persons with cash for livelihoods to help them recover their small businesses from the negative impact of COVID-19.
- Kalota Cooperative, a refugee run group with 90 members, was successfully linked to Golden Camp Solutions, a recognised catering service supplier to Lumwana mine, expected to supply them with rice.

Gap:

- Need for support from specialized institutions to conduct job market assessments to inform skill development planning for the population of concern.
- Need for more livelihoods operational partners to come and support refugee access to livelihoods opportunities and economic inclusion.

Success Story

Chishiku Meta, a 20-year-old Congolese woman living in Meheba Settlement, has always dreamed of starting her own business. She applied for skills training programme with Caritas Czech Republic and was later trained on power electrics at Solwezi Training Institute. She received a capital to buy equipment to start up her business, however she quickly realized that due to the prices' inflation caused by COVID-19 pandemic, the money would not be sufficient. However, Meta was not ready to give up on her dream, she started a poultry business with the help of her family and is hoping to save up enough capital to later invest in her own power electrical business.



Key achievements by sector



Health and Nutrition

- 31,302 persons reached through sensitization.
- Reproductive Health Monitors (14 women, 28 men) targeting adolescents and youth conducted abstinence and be faithful campaigns, reaching 15, 208 persons (9,707 women, 5, 501 men), HIV prevention sensitizations reaching 20, 369 persons (11, 180 women, 9,189 men) as well as delivered family planning services, including provision of birth control to 2, 449 persons.
- Distribution of 18,910 male condoms through community health promotion was conducted.
- A total of 169 persons benefited from supplementary feeding program, out of which 74% are people living with HIV and AIDS.
- COVID-19 sensitization reached 31,286 individuals while 2,093 persons were vaccinated (880 first dose and 1213 fully vaccinated).

Gap:

- Unfinished laboratory structure needs to be finished and expended as well as equipped with advanced laboratory equipment, including full blood count machine, viral-load machine, gene expert machine to address the medical needs of 34,271 individuals.
- One ambulance is covering seven health clinics and population of 34,000 resulting in the medical transfers and lifesaving assistance not being met, additional ambulance is needed.
- WASH facilities at maternity wing to cater for the population of 6,681 women at child bearing age to meet the national standard.



Shelter, Infrastructure and NFIs

Infrastructure

- Four new service building constructed.
- UNHCR implemented construction of a new dormitory building at Transit Center 36 which will address overcrowding at the Center while improving the living space for residents.
- UNHCR completed the first stage of the construction of an Isolation Centre which will aim to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.
- 12 Houses for unaccompanied children are being constructed by UNHCR which will provide them with shelter and protection of the community.
- Construction of 1 by 3 classroom block has been completed which will serve as the first Special Education Needs Unit in the Settlement and District of Kalumbila, allowing access and inclusion in education of children with specific education needs and disabilities.
- Roof rehabilitation of two classroom blocks at Meheba D schools has been done by UNHCR, this intervention will enhance learning environment



Non Food Items (NFIs)

- 19,149 persons benefited from non food items.
- UNHCR released and monitored distribution Core Relief Items to 19,149 beneficiaries, targeting persons with specific needs, elderly, unaccompanied and separated children and women jointly identified by UNHCR and partners. Some of the items distributed included soap (24,208 kg), jerrycans (849), menstrual hygiene kits for girls and women (2,317 pads and 1,025 underwear), refugee housing units (120), sleeping mats (2,849), kitchen sets (1,951), solar lamps (609), buckets (2,172) and others.
- 199 pregnant women benefited from MAMA Kits, a package including items to reduce maternal death during delivery.

Key achievements by sector



WASH

- 10,300 persons benefited from new latrines.
- Under UNICEF's interventions 44 boreholes were fully rehabilitated improving access to water for 6,600 persons, 1,883 sanitation platforms were constructed and distributed.
- UNICEF trained 35 water point committees of 350 members and 26 Area Pump Mechanics.
- 110,300 persons are benefiting from the 1,883 latrines which were constructed while the whole settlement's population benefited from distribution critical WASH supplies.
- Residents of Transit Center 36 are benefiting from the 2 by 3 stand washing bays, refuse bin, refuse base and 8 temporary latrines.
- Menstrual hygiene sanitary facilities were constructed under Education Cannot Wait funding at seven primary schools benefiting to 3,012 girl students.
- 1,715 boxes of soap (UNICEF) were distributed to the community to mitigate COVID-19.
- Mechanization of water points at 7 institutions (3 clinics, 4 schools) will commence in 2022 (UNICEF).

Gap:

- 150 water points need of spare parts, including pipes, cylinders and spare kits which are not available as well as 40 tons of sand, 40 tons quarry and crush stones and 150 pockets of cement.
- 300 kg granulated chlorine is required each year to chlorinate 220 water points to ensure safe drinking water for the 34,271 residents.
- 15 pockets of lime disinfectant are needed yearly to prevent sewage blockage and the spread of diseases.

