



**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

April 2022



## Overview

As of the end of April 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 increased from March 2022 by 1 per cent mainly due to the updated number of IDPs in Mozambique. **The DRC represents 78 per cent** of the regional data.

## Refugees, Asylum-Seekers and Others of concern

The region hosts **801,000 refugees, 285,000 asylum-seekers and 37,000 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 Zambia, South Africa, Malawi, Congo, Angola and other countries. Most major countries of origin are in Africa, but Bangladeshis have also requested asylum in South Africa (see Figure 1).

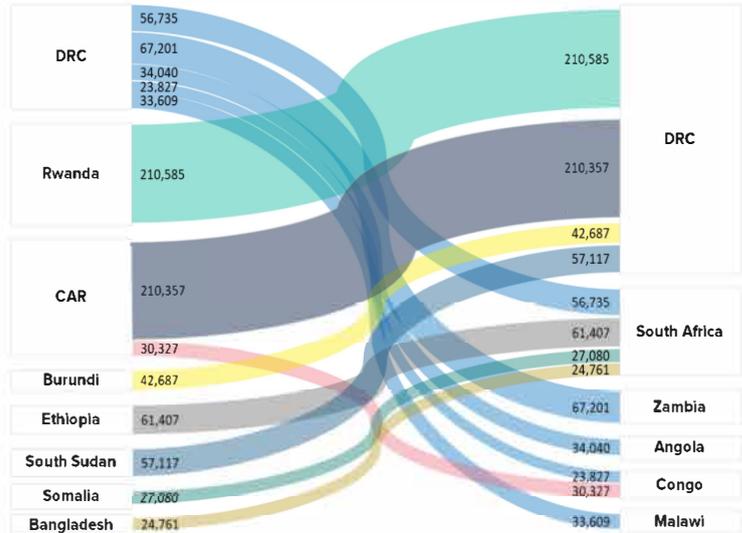


Figure 1. Flows of Refugees, Asylum-Seekers and Others of Concern from Top 8 Countries of Origin

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. Unknown group of demographic information is 5 per cent; most of them are self-settled in Angola and Mozambican asylum-seekers in Zimbabwe.

## 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 of IDPs are reported in DRC, Congo, Mozambique and Zimbabwe (see Figure 2).

## Specific Protection Needs

Among the PoCs requiring specific needs, more than two third are women, showing that women are in more vulnerable situation than men in general. Regarding the categories of specific protection needs, women at risk rank the first, followed by serious medical conditions and single parents. Women at risk account for 10 per cent among the female aged 18 years old or older, and they are 2 per cent of all refugees, asylum-seekers and others of concerns; serious medical conditions and single parents account each for 1 per cent of the population.

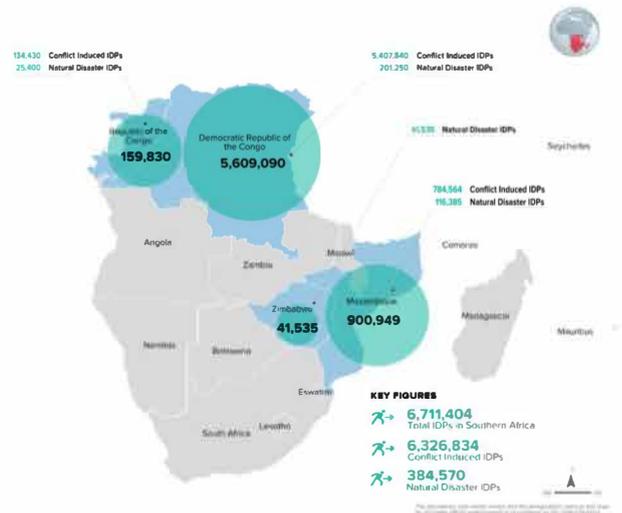


Figure 2. Number of IDPs in RBSA by Cause as of 30 April 2022

## 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, Democratic Republic of the 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).

**KEY FIGURES**



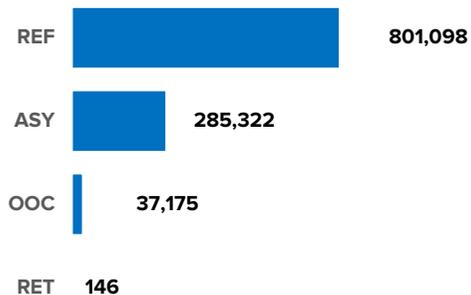
**7,835,145**

Total Population of concern



**1,123,741**

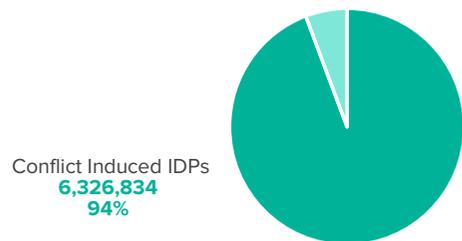
Refugees, asylum-seekers, other of concern & returnees\*\*



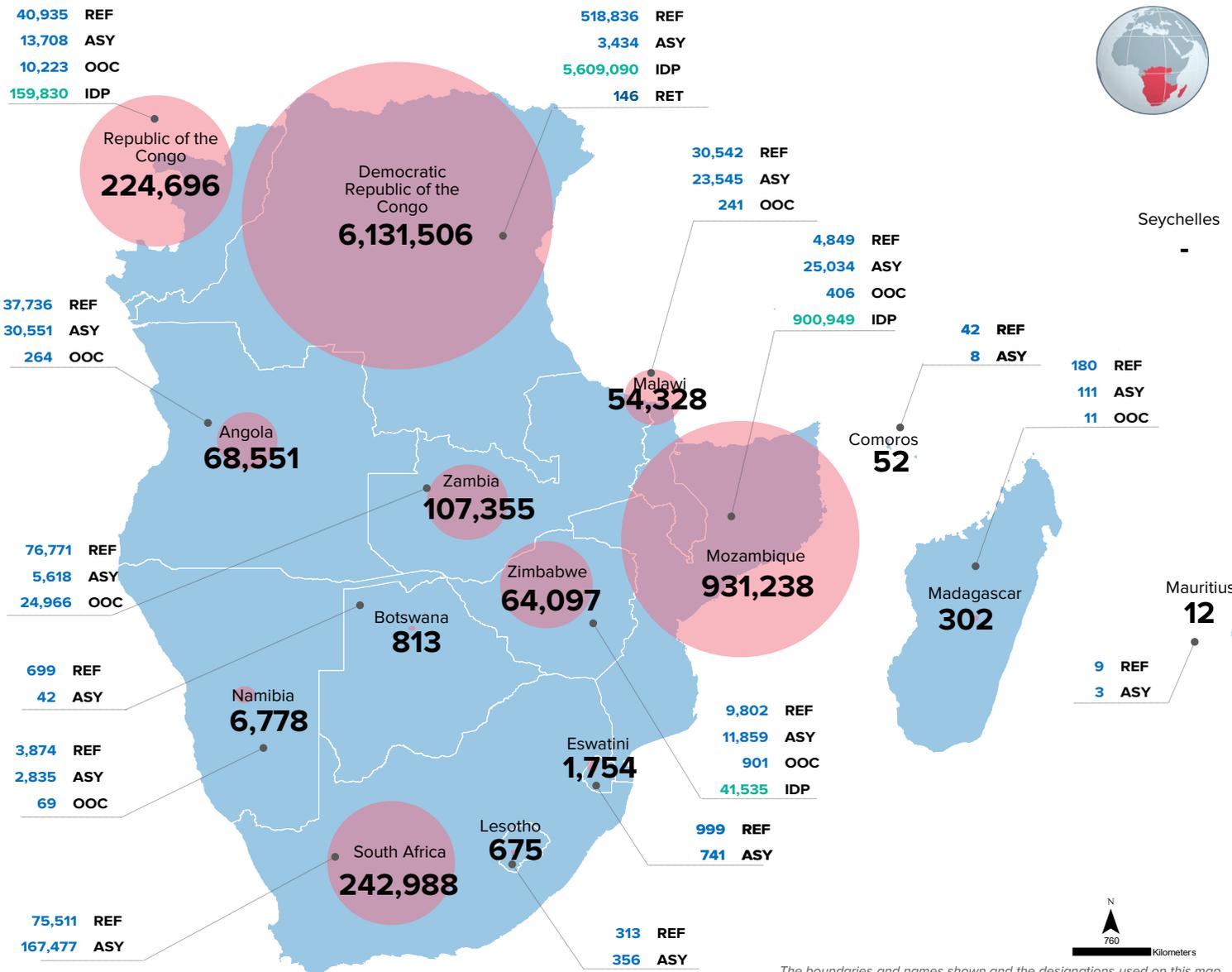
**6,711,404**

IDP population\*\*

Natural Disaster IDPs  
**384,570**  
6%



**PoCs IN SOUTHERN AFRICA REGION\***

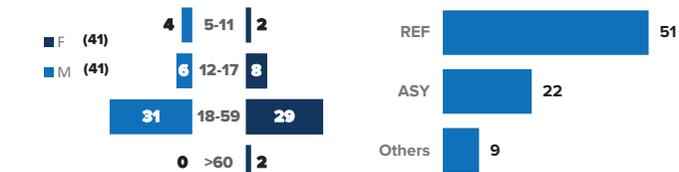


The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations

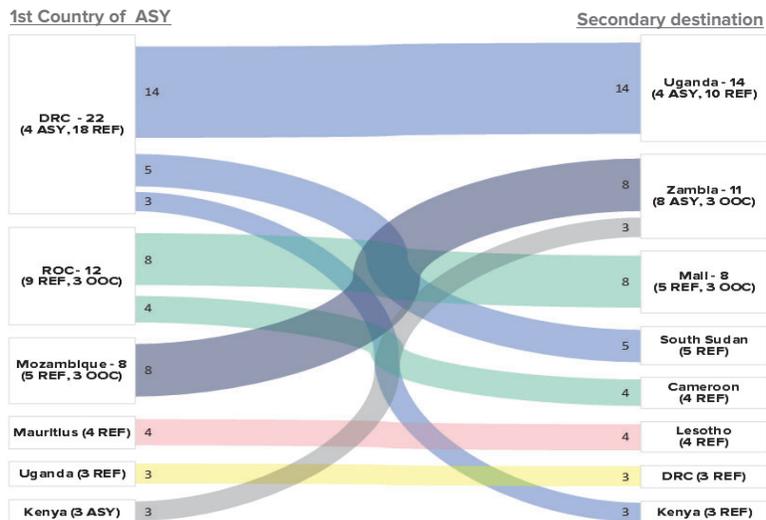
**CROSS BORDER MOVEMENTS KEY FIGURES**



**AGES, GENDER AND LEGAL STATUS OF MOVERS \*\***



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

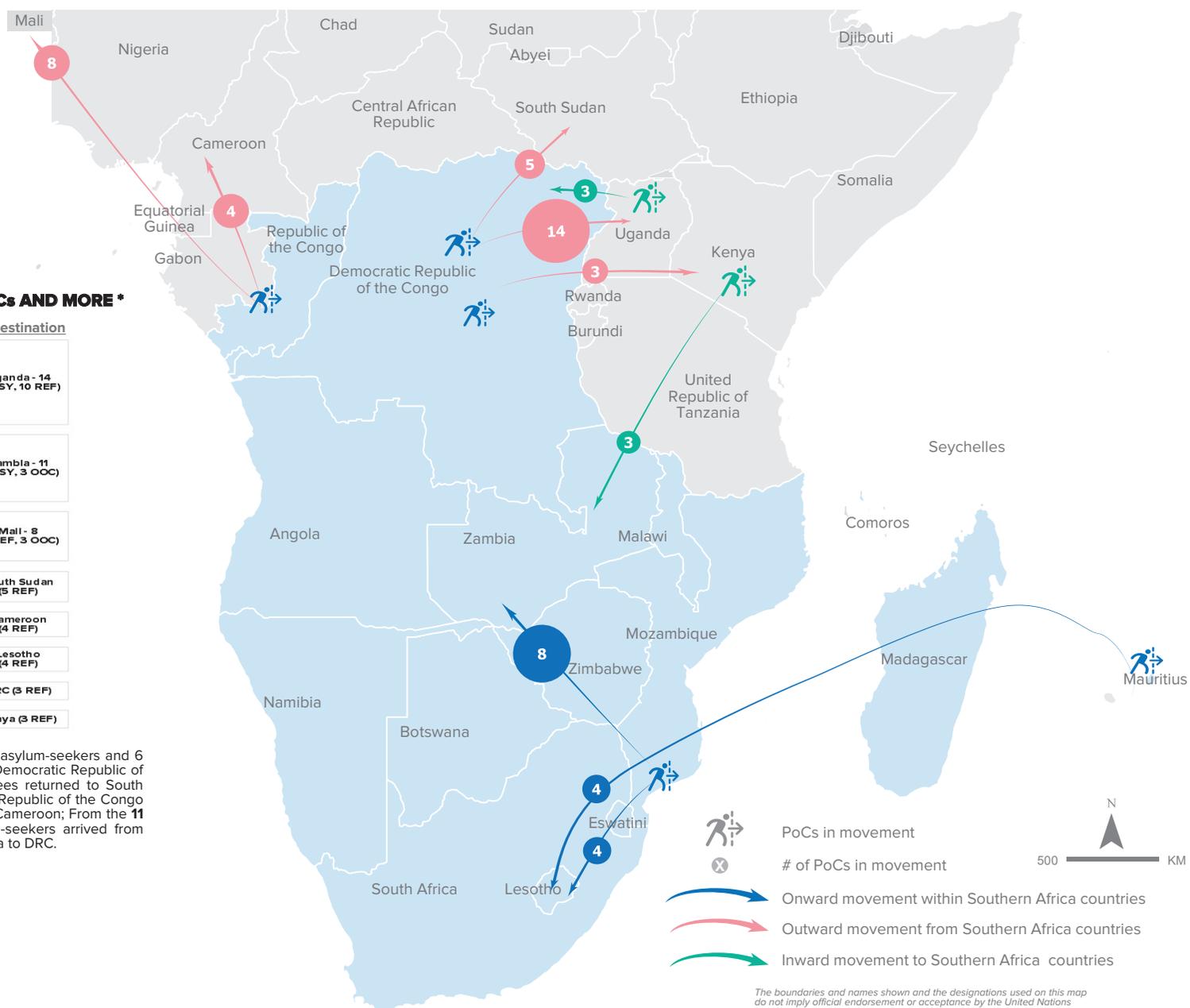


In April 2022, 52 cross-border movements were recorded involving 39 refugees, 7 asylum-seekers and 6 others of concern to UNHCR. From the 22 Persons of Concern (PoCs) who left the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), 10 refugees and 4 asylum-seekers crossed to Uganda, 5 refugees returned to South Sudan and 3 refugees crossed to Kenya; Among the 12 PoCs who crossed from the Republic of the Congo (RoC), 5 refugees and 3 others of concern went to Mali while 4 refugees crossed to Cameroon; From the 11 PoCs who crossed to Zambia, 8 refugees came from Mozambique and 3 asylum-seekers arrived from Kenya; 4 refugees crossed from Mauritius to Lesotho; 3 refugees crossed from Uganda to DRC.

**CUMULATIVE CROSS BORDER MOVEMENTS TREND PER YEAR**



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



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

\* 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

\*\* PoCs = Persons of Concern  
 \*\* 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 30 April 2022\*

| Country of Asylum                | Location**       | Self-settled*** | Refugee        | Asylum-Seeker  | Other of Concern | IDP by conflict  | IDP by natural disaster | Returned IDP | Returnee   | Statelessness | Host Community | Total            |
|----------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------------|--------------|------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|
| Democratic Republic of the Congo | Other            | No              | 397,655        | 2,307          |                  | 5,146,700        | 187,577                 |              | 146        |               |                | 5,734,385        |
|                                  | IDP Camp         | No              |                |                |                  | 261,140          | 13,673                  |              |            |               |                | 274,813          |
|                                  | Lusenda          | No              | 26,103         | 103            |                  |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 26,206           |
|                                  | Meri             | No              | 25,514         | 43             |                  |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 25,557           |
|                                  | Inke             | No              | 17,841         | 1              |                  |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 17,842           |
|                                  | Boyabu           | No              | 11,967         |                |                  |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 11,967           |
|                                  | Mole             | No              | 11,080         | 22             |                  |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 11,102           |
|                                  | Bili             | No              | 10,229         |                |                  |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 10,229           |
|                                  | Biringi          | No              | 7,914          | 89             |                  |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 8,003            |
|                                  | Mulongwe         | No              | 7,304          | 235            |                  |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 7,539            |
|                                  | Bele             | No              | 2,557          | 634            |                  |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 3,191            |
|                                  | Mboti            | No              | 672            |                |                  |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 672              |
|                                  | Sub Total        |                 |                | 518,836        | 3,434            |                  | 5,407,840               | 201,250      |            | 146           |                |                  |
| Mozambique                       | Other            | No              | 1,946          | 18,812         | 53               | 784,564          | 116,385                 |              |            |               |                | 921,760          |
|                                  | Maratane Camp    | No              | 2,903          | 6,222          | 353              |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 9,478            |
|                                  | Sub Total        |                 | 4,849          | 25,034         | 406              | 784,564          | 116,385                 |              |            |               |                | 931,238          |
| South Africa                     | Unknown          | Yes             | 75,511         | 167,477        |                  |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 242,988          |
|                                  | Sub Total        |                 | 75,511         | 167,477        |                  |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 242,988          |
| Congo                            | Other            | No              | 35,438         | 9,184          | 10,083           | 134,430          | 25,400                  |              |            |               |                | 214,535          |
|                                  | Site du 15 Avril | No              | 5,497          | 310            | 134              |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 5,941            |
|                                  | Site de Bouemba  | No              |                | 4,214          | 6                |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 4,220            |
|                                  | Sub Total        |                 | 40,935         | 13,708         | 10,223           | 134,430          | 25,400                  |              |            |               |                | 224,696          |
| Zambia                           | Meheba           | No              | 25,316         | 499            | 10,117           |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 35,932           |
|                                  | Mayukwayukwa     | No              | 14,886         | 15             | 7,175            |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 22,076           |
|                                  | Mantapala        | No              | 17,726         | 875            |                  |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 18,601           |
|                                  | Other            | No              | 13,243         | 4,229          | 870              |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 18,342           |
|                                  | Unknown          | Yes             | 5,600          |                | 6,804            |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 12,404           |
|                                  | Sub Total        |                 | 76,771         | 5,618          | 24,966           |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 107,355          |
| Angola                           | Unknown          | No              | 17,395         | 30,024         | 141              |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 47,560           |
|                                  | Lovua Settlement | No              | 14,025         |                |                  |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 14,025           |
|                                  | Other            | Yes             | 6,316          | 527            | 123              |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 6,966            |
|                                  | Sub Total        |                 | 37,736         | 30,551         | 264              |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 68,551           |
| Zimbabwe                         | Other            | No              | 769            | 71             | 91               |                  | 41,535                  |              |            |               |                | 42,466           |
|                                  | Tongogara        | No              | 9,033          | 5,242          | 810              |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 15,085           |
|                                  | Unknown          | Yes             |                | 6,546          |                  |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 6,546            |
|                                  | Sub Total        |                 | 9,802          | 11,859         | 901              |                  | 41,535                  |              |            |               |                | 64,097           |
| Malawi                           | Dzaleka          | No              | 30,542         | 23,545         | 241              |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 54,328           |
|                                  | Sub Total        |                 | 30,542         | 23,545         | 241              |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 54,328           |
| Namibia                          | Osire            | No              | 3,499          | 1,632          | 37               |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 5,168            |
|                                  | Other            | No              | 375            | 1,203          | 32               |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 1,610            |
|                                  | Sub Total        |                 | 3,874          | 2,835          | 69               |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 6,778            |
| Eswatini                         | Other            | No              | 999            | 741            | 14               |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 1,754            |
|                                  | Sub Total        |                 | 999            | 741            | 14               |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 1,754            |
| Botswana                         | Dukwe            | No              | 538            | 26             | 35               |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 599              |
|                                  | Other            | No              | 161            | 16             | 37               |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 214              |
|                                  | Sub Total        |                 | 699            | 42             | 72               |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 813              |
| Lesotho                          | Other            | No              | 313            | 356            | 6                |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 675              |
|                                  | Sub Total        |                 | 313            | 356            | 6                |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 675              |
| Madagascar                       | Other            | No              | 180            | 111            | 11               |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 302              |
|                                  | Sub Total        |                 | 180            | 111            | 11               |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 302              |
| Comoros                          | Other            | No              | 42             | 8              | 2                |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 52               |
|                                  | Sub Total        |                 | 42             | 8              | 2                |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 52               |
| Mauritius                        | Other            | No              | 9              | 3              |                  |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 12               |
|                                  | Sub Total        |                 | 9              | 3              |                  |                  |                         |              |            |               |                | 12               |
| <b>Total</b>                     |                  |                 | <b>801,098</b> | <b>285,322</b> | <b>37,175</b>    | <b>6,326,834</b> | <b>384,570</b>          | -            | <b>146</b> | -             | -              | <b>7,835,145</b> |

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

The outlined regional data gaps in March 2022 are encompassed in the risk (RBSA-014) and included in the regional risk registry. Referring to the likelihood of the identified risk, the RBSA DIMA developed a 4-year RBSA DIMA strategy:

- Enhance the regional data quality of the persons of concern;
- Engage heads of sectors/units to manage and monitor data indicators for programmes/projects;
- Strengthen the regional data cooperation with partners and states through the capacity development of key government departments in data management and analysis;
- Support the UNHCR regional digital engagement for better identification and inclusion in the national systems of the persons of concern.

# Population Data Analysis

## Regional Bureau for Southern Africa

April 2022



United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees  
UNHCR, Regional Bureau of Southern Africa  
Cover Photo: © UNHCR/Antonia Vadala

### Contact

UNHCR RBSA DIMA, [rsarb@unhcr.org](mailto:rsarb@unhcr.org);

LINKS: [UNHCR RBSA data portal](#) – [Facebook](#) – [Twitter](#) – [Instagram](#)