

Zambia

November 2021

200 farmers (140 refugees, 60 host community) from two co-operatives in Mayukwayukwa refugee settlement, received farming inputs under the Government's Farmer Input Support Programme (FISP) for the 2021/2022 farming season.

As of end of November 2021, 681 refugees (189 households) have departed on resettlement to Canada, Finland, Netherlands, Sweden and the United States of America.

A family of five refugees voluntarily returned to Rwanda with assistance from UNHCR. Assistance provided by UNHCR included Voluntary Repatriation Grant and one-way air tickets.

KEY INDICATORS

586

New asylum-seekers were registered in Zambia in November.

84

People of Concern (PoCs), across all locations, received cash grants amounting to US\$ 16,400 (US\$ 176 – US\$ 294 per business) to facilitate socioeconomic recovery and rebuilding of their small-scale businesses

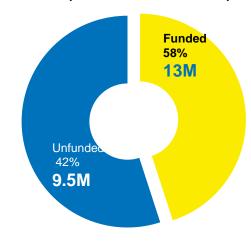
8,390

Individuals (M:3,526; F:4,864) were reached with COVID-19 pandemic sensitization and awareness messages.

FUNDING (AS OF 30 NOVEMBER 2021)

USD 22.5 million

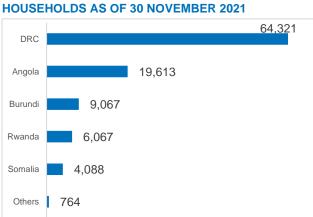
UNHCR's 2021 requirements for the Zambia operation:





A newly constructed VIP toilet in Mantapala settlement ©UNHCR/Bruce Mulenga

PEOPLE OF CONCERN: 103,920 INDIVIDUALS/ 34,104





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 30 November, Zambia was hosting **103,920** PoC's (73,399 refugees, 5,662 Asylum seekers and 24,859 Others of Concern) consisting of 34,378 families.
- Out of the **103,920** PoCs, **45** per cent are women, **27** per cent are children (aged between 0-17 years old) and **3** per cent are elderly (age above 59 years old).
- During the reporting period, there was an increase of **986 individuals** (586 new asylum-seekers, 148 new births and 252 In-Situ registrations).
- Of the new asylum-seekers, **75 per cent** were from the DRC, **20 per cent** from Burundi and **5 per cent** other nationalities.

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

Achievements



Achievements and Impact

- The UNHCR Regional Director for Southern Africa was on official mission in Zambia from 14 to 23 November. He held meetings with the Minister of Home Affairs and Internal Security, national/provincial/district authorities, and UNCT members. Regional Director also visited a livelihood project in Lusaka as well as Meheba and Mayukwayukwa refugee settlements.
- UNHCR held consultations with PoCs as the first step of UNHCR's coordinated Community-led Online Misinformation and Rumour Management Innovation Project in Zambia. Different groups of participants included refugee and youth leaders, men and women networks, school children. The project aims to set up a system to ensure rumours are addressed, misunderstandings cleared, and correct information is disseminated using various communication platforms. The project will complement and reinforce the existing Accountability of Affected Population (AAP) mechanisms within the settlements, which include help desks, complaint boxes and hotlines.
- As part of the 16 days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence (GBV), UNHCR and partners conducted information dialogues with 12 girls at Makeni transit centre in Lusaka and with eight (6F:2M) GBV community outreach volunteers at Chawama outreach centre. The objective of the dialogues was to discuss drivers of GBV in urban communities and proposed solutions from the community. Findings from the discussions will help structuring community outreach programs for 2022. In collaboration with the Office of the COR, UNHCR has lined up community awareness activities that will include a sports day, school outreach sensitization and a radio program to feature a survivor of GBV.
- Refugees, as well as UNHCR and partner staff in Lusaka and in the three settlements, participated in the commemoration of World Aids Day under the theme "End inequalities. End AIDS. End Pandemics!". During the commemoration, refugees had access to on-site sexual reproductive health services and information as well as testing for HIV and COVID-19.
- Consultations between UNHCR, UNFPA and Zambia Statistical Agency (ZAMSTATS) regarding the request by UNHCR to include questions on statelessness in the census template resulted in an agreement to include some targeted questions by ZAMSTATS. Once the questions are included in the census template, ZAMSTATS plans to conduct a pre-test in an identified location and share a sample of the data analysis with UNHCR. UNHCR will continue to participate in the national census stakeholder



- meetings to ensure that data captured in the 2022 national census includes PoCs and persons at risk of statelessness.
- UNHCR, working with other stakeholders, conducted trainings in Kaoma, Solwezi and Nchelenge targeting district stakeholders under the EU project "Children on the Move". These trainings targeted personnel from the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services (MCDSS), Immigration Department, the Zambia Police Service, and the Zambia Correctional Service among others. The aim of these trainings was to strengthen the capacity of district teams to address cases of children on the move, reinforce alternative care systems in the settlements and strengthen the provision of gender sensitive support to children on the move. A total of 66 participants across the three districts participated in trainings.
- A total of 298 Congolese refugees (81 households) were confirmed for the voluntary repatriation by the end of December 2021. The first convoy of the returning refugees from Mantapala settlement to the DRC was pending the confirmation by the Governments of DRC and Zambia by the end of November.
- UNHCR FO Solwezi coordinated with COR the release of 152 PoCs who had been detained by the immigration authorities in Ndola and Chililabombwe due to lack of documentation. PoCs had been outside Meheba refugee settlement for business reasons. After their release, PoCs were transported back to Meheba refugee settlement.
- COR in Meheba refugee settlement received 484 newly issued birth certificates from the Office of National Registration Passport and Citizenship in Kalumbila District. The certificates were updated in ProGresV4, and a total of 288 were collected by the beneficiaries.
- On 30 November, UNHCR in Kaoma organized a live GBV radio awareness programme as part of the Safe from the Start Programme. The activity focused on this year's theme of 16 Days of Gender Activism:" End violence against women now", as well as UNHCR's policy on prevention, risk mitigation and response to GBV. The live broadcast took place in Kaoma town. Panel members consisted of UNHCR, COR, a traditional leader and a young refugee woman.

Identified Need and Remaining Gap

 Refugee Status Determination (RSD) Committee was only able to visit Meheba refugee settlement only once during 2021 to determine appeal cases due to COVID-19 pandemic restrictions and other competing priorities. Four missions had been initially planned and budgeted for 2021.



Achievements and Impact

- UNHCR) signed a memorandum of understanding with the Cavendish University Zambia that will allow 200 refugee students in the country have access to tertiary education in 2022 at 50 per cent tuition cost. Another 50 per cent of tuition costs will be covered by UNHCR.
- In Mantapala refugee settlement, Plan International and CARE International, with the assistance of UNHCR and the IPSOS Foundation, handed over two recently constructed classroom buildings to COR and the Ministry of Education (MOE). The new classrooms will help to strengthen secondary education in Mantapala settlement. UNHCR also provided desktop computers to a computer laboratory. In addition, UNHCR provided hygiene products for the prevention of COVID-19 in Mantapala schools.
- Grade 7 and 9 national examinations were held in November in the refugee settlements.
- Total of 27 (M:11 and F:16) schoolteachers in Mayukwayukwa catchment area received training by UNHCR and Ministry of Community Development and Social Services (MCDSS) on 27 November. The topic of the training was UNHCR's policy on risk mitigation, prevention, and response to GBV and GBV referral pathways. The objective of the training was to strengthen community structures and build capacity of the community on service delivery, referral pathways and follow up of cases according to the standard operational procedures. Furthermore, the training aimed at promoting prevention and response to GBV at community level.

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. UNHCR will engage Government to waive or reduce the cost of study permits (ZMW 7,000/US\$450).





HEALTH

Achievements and Impact

- Refugees and asylum-seekers continued to access COVID-19 testing and vaccines through the support of the Ministry of Health. In November, the number of vaccinated PoCs increased by 21 per cent from 1,376 to 1,737. Out of the cumulative figure, **535** had the first dose of AstraZeneca, while **1,202** were vaccinated with AstraZeneca or Johnson & Johnson.
- All refugee settlements were allocated withe COVID-19 vaccines and conducted vaccinations though uptake is still low due to vaccine hesitance which posed a challenge. However, sensitization and awareness campaigns continued.
- As part of preparing for the voluntary repatriation of 300 refugees in Mantapala settlement, who had expressed their desire to return to the DRC during a recent return intention survey, the MoH, in collaboration with COR and UNHCR, successfully conducted general medical screening including testing for COVID-19 of 170 refugees.
- In Meheba refugee settlement, a general mobile clinic, supported by two doctors and one nurse, was organized by the district of Kalumbila to support the medical needs in the settlement. The clinic attended 51 patients, and medicine or prescriptions for unavailable drugs were provided based on the consultations.

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 collaboration with partners, distributed Cash for Food assistance to 16,890 refugees (M:8,269 and F:8,621) comprising of 4,435 households at Mantapala settlement using the WFP Cash-Based Transfer (CBT) network.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

NTR.



WATER, SANITATION AND ENERGY

Achievements and Impact

- The construction of 59 latrines in Mantapala settlement reached the stage of door installation and grill gate painting in various facilities such as in child-friendly centres (CFS), small markets, Vocational and Entrepreneurship Training Centre, Food Distribution Point (FDP), and Police post. World Vision International (WVI) is constructing the latrines with funds provided by UNICEF.
- Core relief items distributed to refugees in Mantapala settlement included 50 sleeping mats from World Vision to support the five child-friendly spaces; 2,567 sanitary materials from UNICEF for 2,126 schoolaged girls; tarpaulins from UNHCR for 128 households/455 individuals (M:198/F 257); and assorted CRIs to three households/nine individuals who were identified as survivors of house fires. UNHCR also supplied COR with ten blankets to assist PoCs in the settlement with funerals.
- In Meheba refugee settlement, distribution of 20 litre water containers commenced during the period under review targeting some 8,000 PoCs.
- World Toilet Day commemoration was held on 19 November 2021 in Kaoma at Longe area (host community) under the theme "Valuing Toilets". On the day, partners and host community celebrated toilets and raised awareness of the people living without access to safely managed sanitation, and the need to take action to tackle the global sanitation crisis and achieve Sustainable Development Goal Number Six: Water and Sanitation for all by 2030. This activity was supported by World Vision Zambia



(WVZ) and partners from Kaoma District Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion (DWASH) Committee.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

The lack of repair kits for the rehabilitation of water points continues to prevent the repair of several water points in the Meheba refugee settlement.



SHELTER, INFRASTRUCTURE AND NFIS

Achievements and Impact

- The Ministry of Education (MoE) granted a certificate of completion for a 1x3 classroom block built by UNHCR through Plan International at Mantapala-B school. The next stage is a handover of the classroom block by UNHCR to MoE.
- The construction of a 1x2 classroom building for early childhood education (ECE) in the third school in Mantapala settlement reached wall plate level.
- Painting of seven menstrual hygiene facilities commenced and the finishing touches are being carried out. The project in Meheba refugee settlement is expected to be completed by mid-December 2021.

Identified Need and Remaining Gap

 The rainy season presents many challenges to the road, shelter and other infrastructure in the refugee settlements.



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

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