Angola 1 – 28 February 2019

Age and Gender Diversity Mainstreaming (AGDM) exercise took place in the Lóvua Settlement at the beginning of February. The opening of three permanent schools took place in the Lóvua Settlement.

10,000 refugees in the Lóvua Settlement have been provided with **new documents with security features** in order to avoid fraud.

KEY INDICATORS

75

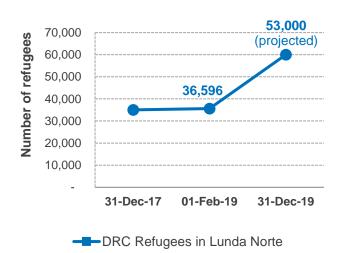
Per cent of Congolese refugees from Kasai in Angola are women and children

36,616

Biometrically registered Congolese refugees in Lunda Norte Province. Total of **23,845 refugees** are currently receiving food assistance.

53,000

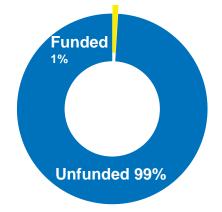
Inter-agency planning figure for Congolese refugees by the end of 2019.



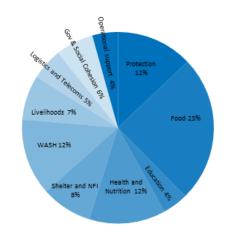
REFUGEE POPULATION TRENDS

USD 60 million

requested for the DRC emergency in 2019 (Regional Response for the DRC Situation)



FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS



Update on Achievements

Operational Context

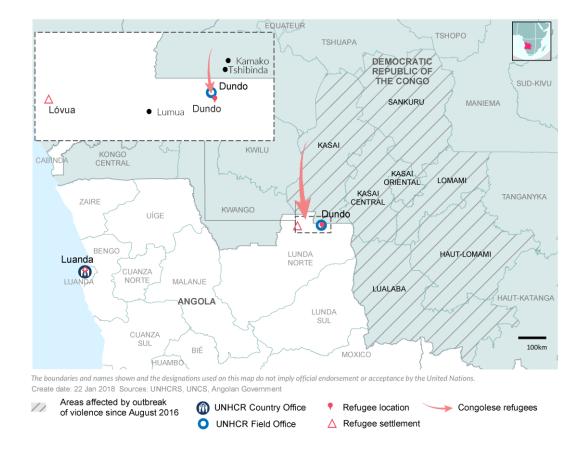
The outbreak of violence in the Kasai region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) in March 2017 triggered the internal displacement of some 1.4 million persons and the flight of over 35,000 refugees into Lunda Norte Province of Angola. However from August 2017, new arrivals decreased drastically. In 2018, the Lunda Norte refugee population only increased as a result of births and family reunification.

Refugees from Kasai were initially accommodated in two overcrowded transit centres in Dundo town, as well as spread throughout host communities in and around urban areas. The Government of Angola (GoA) therefore identified an area of land, the Lóvua Settlement, some 95 kms from Dundo town, for the refugees. In August 2017, relocation to this site began.

In October 2018, GoA initiated an operation to tackle illegal diamond mining, so called *Operação Transparência*. During the operation, over 400,000 Congolese nationals were expelled from Angola. Although the operation did not target refugees, 1,500 refugees in Lunda Norte Province were caught up and returned to the DRC. This prompted a surge in relocation to the Lóvua Settlement as refugees accommodated there were at less risk.By 19 January 2019, when relocation ended, over 19,700 refugees in total had been transferred to the Lóvua Settlement by partners.

Most refugees in the Lóvua Settlement celebrated the election of the new President of the DRC in January 2019 especially as he is from the same ethnic group and area of origin as a large majority of them. Since then, some refugees have been asking to return to the DRC. To address this, an "intentions survey" is being planned.

Inter-agency partners have been working together to ensure protection, build resilience among refugee communities and peaceful coexistence between refugees and host population. The main priorities for 2019 are: (1) to transition from emergency to development; (2) to strengthen refugees and host communities' leadership structures; and (3) to support refugees and host communities on livelihood related activities.



Achievements

Highlights

The three permanent schools, which were financed by the Government of the China and the Government of Japan, were inaugurated in February 2019. The move to formal education represents an important moment for partners working in the refugee response in Angola as it will guarantee that refugees have access to subjects that will enhance their local integration in the country.

On 11 February, high level representation from the Government of Angola, Government of China and partner organizations attended the inauguration ceremony of the two schools financed by the Government of the People's Republic of China. The inauguration ceremony of the third school financed by the Government of Japan took place on 18 February with the participation of the Ambassador of Japan.



Achievements and Impact

- An agreement between the Provincial Civil Registration Office and partners was finalised with the goal of improving civil registration services for newborn babies in the Lóvua Settlement. Government of Angola (GoA) has agreed to send two civil registration officers twice a week to the settlement.
- The AGDM exercise and further discussions with refugees in the Lóvua Settlement showed that there are several families with the intention to return to the DRC. Partners are planning an intentions survey to get a better idea of numbers of refugees who may decide to return, as well as timing and possible return locations. Other main issues identified were linked to food, security and livelihoods.
- A campaign began in February for refugees to receive new documentation that has greater security features in order to prevent fraud. So far 10,000 refugees living in the Lóvua Settlement have been provided with new documents.



Achievements and Impact

 Total of 21 families, who spontaneously relocated to the Lóvua Settlement, have been receiving emergency shelter assistance.



Achievements and Impact

- In the Lóvua Settlement, two awareness raising sessions on HIV prevention and infection were organised at the two Women Friendly Spaces on 23 February. Total of 130 adolescent boys and girls participated in two sessions.
- Total of 69 mama and newborn kits were distributed to 69 pregnant women
- Social mobilizers distributed 902 male condoms to 193 men and 69 women aged from 19 to 54 during community outreach activities.
- Two workshop sessions on domestic violence were organized for men on 1 and 23 February. Raising awareness among men constitutes an important strategy to prevent domestic violence and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). Total of 403 refugee men joined the workshop sessions.

- Total of 6,520 medical consultations took place at the two health posts in the Lóvua Settlement including 2,020 consultations for children under five years old.
- Total of 136 children between six and 59 months received treatment for moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and 13 for severe acute malnutrition (SAM).

Challenges

A third health post is urgently needed to ensure that all refugees in the settlement have access to primary health care.



Achievements and Impact

Boreholes will be ready by the end of the month.

Challenges

The pumping capacity at completed boreholes are too low. Discussions are being had to review this.



Achievements and Impact

Constant rain in the Lóvua Settlement has led to the destruction of at least 52 tents.
Damaged tents are now being replaced.

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