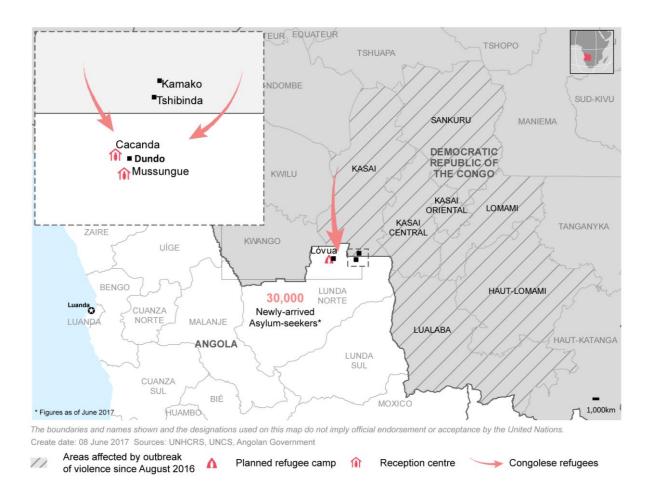
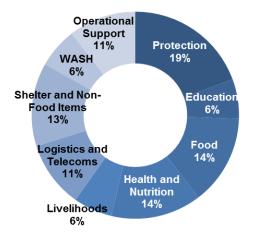
# ANGOLA INTER-AGENCY REFUGEE APPEAL

April – December 201

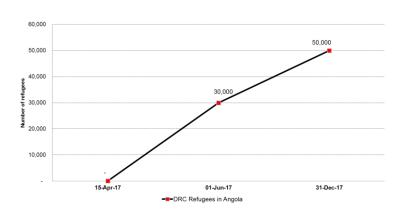
#### ANGOLA INTER-AGENCY REFUGEE APPEAL



# Financial Requirements (US dollars) USD 65,507,610



# **Population Trends**



### **STRATEGIC OVERVIEW**

Period	April - December 2017
Current Population	30,000 at 29 May 2017
<b>Population Planning Figures</b>	50,000
Target Beneficiaries	50,000
Financial Requirements	USD 65,507,610
Number of Partners	13

#### PARTNERS IN THE RESPONSE

FAO | IOM | JRS | MAG | UNAIDS | UNDP | UNDSS | UNFPA | UNHCR | UNICEF | UNRCO | WFP | WHO |

#### BACKGROUND

A complex emergency is unfolding in the Kasai region in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) as a result of inter-community tensions and clashes between militia groups, the Congolese armed forces and self-defence groups, and between rival militia groups. Protection concerns and human rights violations have been reported, indicating a high risk that the situation could develop into a large-scale conflict. Most civilians in affected areas are at risk of serious human rights violations, including physical mutilation, killing, sexual violence, arbitrary arrest and detention in inhumane conditions. This has resulted in the internal displacement of 1.3 million civilians and over 30,000 refugees fleeing across the border to Angola.

Angola, a signatory to the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees, has historically received refugees from the DRC and other neighbouring countries. Prior to the present influx from the DRC since 15 April 2017, Angola was hosting some 15,600 refugees, including more than 13,400 from the DRC.

Refugees are currently crossing the border into Dundo, Lunda Norte, at an average rate of 300-500 refugees per day. The Government of Angola has maintained open borders and established two reception sites at Cacanda and Mussungue. These sites have reached maximum capacity.

The Government of Angola, the Ministry of Welfare and Social Reintegration (MINARS), UN agencies, international NGOs and the Angola Red Cross Society are providing refugees with urgently needed protection, water and sanitation facilities, food, shelter, core relief items and medical assistance.

An inter-ministerial committee has been established, headed by the Minister of Defence. The committee, as well as representatives of UNHCR, WFP, WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA and the Resident Coordinator (RC) undertook an assessment mission to Dundo in May. The mission visited the two reception centres at Cacanda and Mussungue to better assess the living conditions and immediate needs of the refugees in these locations. They also visited the hospital hosting some 30 severely wounded refugees from the DRC who arrived in critical condition due to the ongoing conflict. The Angolan Government proposed a site in Lóvua, 85 kilometres west of Dundo. The technical assessment confirmed the suitability of the proposed site to host refugees. Development of the site is currently underway.

Despite the efforts of the Government of Angola and partners, various challenges persist in the provision of life-saving assistance and protection. The financial requirements are urgent to ensure the provision of life-saving assistance and protection. The reception centres are accommodating refugees beyond their capacity and basic services cannot be maintained. Limited funding and limited partners on the ground, as well as fuel shortages, add to the operational challenges.

## HUMANITARIAN NEEDS AND VULNERABILITIES

This inter-agency appeal covers protection and life-saving interventions from 15 April to 31 December 2017. The conflict in the Kasai region, DRC, is expected to generate further displacement internally and across the border into Angola. The daily rate of arrival into Angola fluctuates depending on the areas of active conflict in DRC and the safety of the routes from DRC to Angola. Increasingly, refugees are using informal border crossing points to reach safety in Angola.

By the end of 2017, the Government of Angola and UN partners estimate that the number of refugees fleeing the violence in Kasai to Angola may reach **50,000**. During preliminary protection interviews and focus group discussions in the reception centres, refugees expressed fear about returning to the DRC unless the situation there fundamentally changes, allowing safe and dignified return.

In line with an age, gender and diversity approach, UN agencies have undertaken a number of rapid assessments in different areas of focus to ascertain humanitarian needs and vulnerabilities. Agencies have mainstreamed protection and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) considerations in assessments as well as in planned activities.

The profile of Congolese refugees as of 30 May includes 53 per cent under 18 years old; 76 per cent women and children; 23 per cent adult men with the following urgent needs:

#### Protection:

- Admission of refugees to safety in Angola. Timely, systematic individual registration.
- Advocacy for maintaining the civilian character of asylum.
- Strengthening capacity of national protection service providers.
- Engaging with communities as agents of protection in mitigating protection risks and responding to the needs of refugees.
- Undertaking preliminary protection assessments to identify refugees with heightened protection risks.
- Facilitating the issuance of documentation attesting legal status.
- Promoting peaceful coexistence and social cohesion within and between refugee and host communities.
- Strengthening child protection systems and supporting identification, tracing and reunification for separated and unaccompanied children, as well as provision of psychosocial support.
- Provision of emergency transportation assistance to safety.
- SGBV prevention and response including clinical management of survivors, psychosocial support, and provision of dignity kits to women of child-bearing age.

Angolan authorities have maintained an open border policy and are currently facilitating the movement of refugees from the border areas to the reception centres. Access to the border areas to conduct the registration of the refugees has been granted and registration activities are ongoing. Preliminary protection interviews are regularly undertaken at the pre-registration stage. Refugees with specific needs, including unaccompanied and separated children, single

parents, refugees with serious medical conditions, older refugees and those with disabilities, have been systematically identified and referred for appropriate follow-up. However, the existing response capacity is still nascent. Strengthening capacity of national service providers and engagement with communities is required to scale up protection in both refugee reception centres as well as within the host community.

Strengthening community leadership structures to promote peaceful coexistence and social cohesion among refugees and between refugee and host communities is a priority. Two-way communication will be established to engage the communities in mitigating protection risks and responding to identified protection cases. Refugee communities will be encouraged to establish refugee committees representative of diverse groups. Inter-agency referral mechanisms will be developed. Advocacy will continue for refugees to have access to basic rights and services including education, documentation, freedom of movement and livelihood opportunities. UNHCR will work with the Government to provide documentation attesting legal status and will continue to develop standard operating procedures to record births and deaths. Maintaining the civilian character of asylum remains a priority both in the reception centres and host communities. Legal services will be initiated and two workshops will be organized on international and national asylum law. Awareness workshops in the receptions centres will be conducted on: leadership, SGBV/HIV-AIDS, human rights, discrimination, as well as violence against women and children and its root causes.

#### Host communities and co-existence:

Refugees arriving from the Kasai region of the DRC into Angola comprise different ethnic groups. Escaping from political and inter-ethnic/communal clashes in their homelands, many of them continue to face ethnic tensions. The Government of Angola has encouraged the refugees to leave their political and ethnic problems behind, and to rebuild their lives and communities in a spirit of mutual respect and assistance.

While these efforts made by the Angolan authority are crucial to ensure peaceful cohabitation amongst the various groups, continued support is needed in the area of post-conflict traumatic care and reconciliation among refugee populations. Support to promote co-existence will become even more important with host communities in Lóvua. Moreover, promotion of co-existence among the refugees is critical in preparing for future return and rebuilding their communities in the DRC.

Building upon its experience in peacebuilding, conflict resolution, and reconciliation, UNDP and partners will support Congolese refugees and Lóvua municipality households to promote co-existence through counselling, and civic education activities.

**Registration:** More than 20,000 refugees are currently housed in reception centres. Biometric and individual registration began on 1 June to obtain reliable planning data, and identify people with vulnerabilities and specific needs to strengthen the delivery of humanitarian assistance. This exercise is crucial to protect the new arrivals from *refoulement* and ensure their access to life-saving services and assistance. Congolese refugees need safe and dignified transportation assistance from the hosting centres and borders points to the designated arrivals points within Lunda Norte Province. Priority and special attention will be given to vulnerable people such as unaccompanied and separated children, pregnant and lactating women, the disabled and elderly, and those with chronic medical conditions.

**Child Protection**: Strengthening child protection systems must be prioritized, specifically in the areas of registration, family tracing and family reunification as well as prevention and response to violence against children in communities, reception centres and at the proposed refugee site. Child-friendly spaces will be established and will facilitate the identification of children with protection concerns, delivery of psychosocial support, recreation, nutrition

screening, and referrals to other services. A system will be established for monitoring and following up cases of unaccompanied and separated children as well as initiating family tracing and unification. Information on violence against children as well as the referral system will be disseminated. The provincial child protection networks will be strengthened to improve the delivery of protection services to refugees in host communities. Specific interventions will be undertaken for children that were involved in armed conflict. Recreational activities in both sites in coordination with refugee leaders and Red Cross of Angola volunteers will be put in place.

**Sexual and gender-based violence:** An SGBV prevention and response strategy for survivors needs to be developed in cooperation with all stakeholders. A multi-sectoral SGBV response will be established in the sites. The response will include SGBV prevention and response activities in coordination with the Angolan Ministry of Family and Women Promotion (MINFAMU) in Lunda Norte and the provision of accessible, confidential and survivor-centred multi-sectoral services in collaboration with the Provincial Directorates of Health. People living with disabilities and other vulnerable groups, such as young single mothers, will require special attention in the first months to ensure that they have access to food and other basic services. Information, education and communication materials on SGBV prevention, where to go for help and how to access SGBV services will be developed and disseminated.

**Mine action:** MAG will work with partners to raise awareness on risks of landmines and UXO and to help identify areas with higher risks of landmine contamination. Mine risk awareness education (MRE) will target men, women, boys and girls at the reception and refugee sites. The host community will also benefit from the MRE.

#### Food:

• Immediate life-saving food assistance to 50,000 Congolese refugees.

As an immediate emergency measure, the Government of Angola provided food for three days in May for the most vulnerable people (5 per cent of people of concern). However, UNHCR identified the urgent need to pursue food procurement locally and distribute it to cover the immediate food needs of some 20,000 people (10,200 females and 9,800 males) until WFP could take over the procurement and delivery of food.

A rapid qualitative emergency food security mission was undertaken to determine the profile of the refugee population requiring food, agriculture and other livelihood assistance. The information gathered from focus group interviews indicates a high level of vulnerability to food insecurity related mainly to the conflict, but also limited access to food assistance and income opportunities. Most families eat only one meal per day. The current food rations are supplemented by other sources of animal protein acquired through in-kind payment for casual labour in local farms and other odd jobs performed in town. UNHCR distributed food to refugees in May. Food procurement for the next three months is currently underway by WFP, who will take over the supply chain of food assistance while UNHCR will be responsible for the distribution, together with JRS. Post-distribution monitoring will be carried out.

### Education:

- It is expected that 53 per cent of the refugees will be children from 0 to 17 years of age. Formal and non-formal education opportunities for at least 50 per cent of children will be required using a variety of approaches.
- The provision of education services will follow a gradual process commencing with early childhood development (ECD) services, with a possibility of developing services for other groups concurrently.
- Provision of temporary learning spaces through the procurement and installation of at least 75 tents and at least 60 ECD kits.
- Supporting the establishment of transitional learning spaces
- Provision of at least 100 education kits for primary and secondary education, which includes 4,500 backpacks and 90 recreation kits for children and adolescents.
- Training of trainers for teachers and peer educators on life skills.
- Training of trainers for care givers.

UNICEF and UNHCR will work closely to ensure effective leadership is established for interagency coordination with links to other sector coordination mechanisms on critical intersectoral issues. The coordination mechanism will provide guidance to all partners on common approaches and standards while ensuring that all critical education gaps and vulnerabilities are identified. Information on roles, responsibilities and accountability will be provided to address all gaps without duplication. This will be achieved through support to national provincial/municipal education authorities to coordinate education activities for affected refugee and host populations. In addition, focal agency roles and responsibilities for the needs of learners in refugee and host communities will be assigned. Children, including preschoolage children, girls, and other excluded children, will access quality education opportunities through the establishment of learning centres and child-friendly and adolescent-friendly emergency non-formal programmes, which include play and early learning for young children. ECD centres will be established and capacity building of caregivers provided. Recreation programmes to promote a child-friendly environment for children and adolescents, boys and girls will be created while a peaceful environment will be built through the use of recreational activities.

#### Livelihood:

- Building livelihood and resilience into the site of Lóvua, benefitting 6,000 people and 2,000 families including members of host community.
- Distribution of energy efficient stoves.

FAO and WFP conducted a joint assessment on livelihood and food security in Dundo and Lóvua in mid-May, which established that the feeding traditions of refugees are similar to the host community. Most of the refugees come from agricultural backgrounds, including raising of small ruminants, pigs, chicken, fishing and aquaculture. Mitigating measures need to be taken to address potential environmental risks, in particular deforestation, possible soil erosion, and water pollution. UNHCR will provide energy efficient stoves to minimize the environmental impact.

The interventions aim to build livelihoods' sustainability and resilience at the new refugee site, taking into consideration traditions. The projects will also contribute to peaceful coexistence, considering that livelihood support is equally important for the host community. Refugee families are expected to have some area for agriculture to be established in the upcoming dry season. New arrivals in Lóvua will receive assistance through the receipt of agricultural land and kits (tools & seeds), business start-up kits, cash grant, and livelihood training. The activities will ensure the active participation of women, being 55 per cent of the beneficiaries.

Kits and training will be provided by FAO to 2,000 families on family farming (short-cycle varieties of sweet potato, maize and cassava, tools), micro-gardens (vertical or lift-up micro-gardens, tools), poultry raising and egg production, aquaculture and a pilot worm production. Irrigation will require the construction of six water tanks. As a result, refugee families are expected to start producing vegetables and crops from three months, aquaculture at four months and poultry at five months.

Support to 300 small business initiatives will be provided in terms of food, clothing, and other products. The provincial government, with the support of UNDP, will identify beneficiaries and provide necessary basic business management training through employment of a local training service provider and equip both refugees and host population with start-up kits to support small retail business activities. The start-up kits will include necessary furniture and equipment for shops and motor cycles to support transportation of goods between the Lóvua municipal capital city and the new refugee site. Small retail business initiated with support of the project will also be registered at the provincial government.

#### Health and nutrition:

- Disease surveillance and outbreak control measures.
- Basic health and referral services.
- Reproductive emergency obstetric and new-born services and immunization services.
- SGBV response health services.
- Malaria control interventions.
- HIV transmission prevention interventions.
- Nutrition surveillance, assessment and clinical management of acute malnutrition.
- Effective coordination, supervision monitoring and evaluation of health services.
- Provision of mosquito nets to be distributed in coordination.
- Provision of vaccines such as measles, polio, cholera, BCG and yellow fever.
- Conducting social mobilization/Communication for Development (C4D) activities with the view to improving social behaviour on health practices.
- Assessment of the nutritional status of children on arrival and rapid referral
- Training of Municipal Hospital staff as first line of referral on prevention and treatment of severe acute malnutrition (SAM).
- Training of community health workers on both severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) screening and support to related treatment.
- Procurement of MUAC, weighing scales, nutrition supplies, including ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF) and therapeutic milk.
- Conduct social mobilization/Communication for Development (C4D) activities with the view to improving social behaviour on nutrition-related practices.
- Promotion of nutritional practices and behavioural change, through skill demonstration using community kitchens.

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