

ANGOLA

22 May 2017

Inter-Ministerial delegation headed by the Minister of MINARS visited Dundo area to strengthen the coordinated response from the government and the UN agencies.

UNHCR distributed **food and relief items** for approximately 2,500 asylum-seekers hosted in Mussungue reception centre.

The Angolan authorities will open a **new site in Lovua Municipality**. Preparations are underway to establish necessary structures and services for asylum-seekers.

KEY FIGURES

23,514

Newly-arrived Congolese asylum-seekers, approximately 500 daily arrivals (Government of Angola)

19,135

Asylum-seekers **pre-registered** in Dundo area

77%

of **pre-registered asylum-seekers** are women, children, and older persons.

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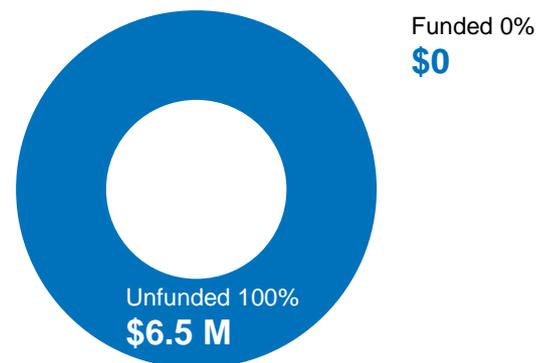
LINKS

- [Angola data portal](#)
- [Video: Refugees arriving from Kasai region](#)
- [Video: A refugee from the DRC shares her story](#)

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS (AS OF MAY 2017)

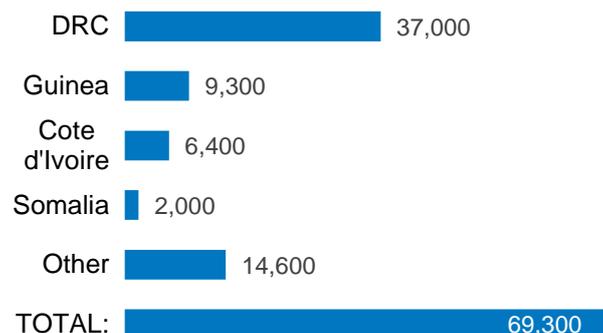
US\$ 6.5 million

requested, including an additional \$4 million for the emergency response until end-June 2017



POPULATION OF CONCERN

By country of origin



Operational Context

So far over 23,500 Congolese have fled from Kasai region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), mainly from Kamako area, to Lunda Norte Province in Northern Angola. Besides the indiscriminate and brutal violence targeting civilians, the recently reported shortage of food in the Kamako area is forcing people to flee. Although nearly 80 per cent of pre-registered arrivals are women, children and older persons, more men are also crossing the border. Angolan police continues to conduct screening at the border to establish the civilian nature of the new arrivals. Congolese asylum-seekers staying in Cacanda and Mussungue reception centres have indicated to both Angolan and Congolese authorities, as well as to UNHCR, that they do not have immediate plans to return to the DRC due to the insecurity in their areas of origin.



Approximately 500 Congolese are fleeing daily to Angola through various informal border crossings. New arrivals are screened by the Angolan border police and transported by UNHCR to Cacanda and Mussungue reception centres for pre-registration and assistance. Over 23,500 Congolese from Kasai region have arrived to northern Angola since early April. UNHCR / S. Cansizoglu



A family who fled Kasai Province, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, eat their evening meal at Cacanda reception centre in Dundo, Angola. UNHCR / P. Rulashe

Achievements



PROTECTION

UNHCR and WFP continue to support the Angolan authorities in the pre-registration of new arrivals. So far **19,135** individuals have been pre-registered at Cacanda and Mussungue reception centres as well as by mobile registration teams. Nearly 80 per cent of the pre-registered population are women, children and older people. The new arrivals are screened by the Angolan armed forces and pre-registered by UNHCR and WFP in support of the Angolan authorities.

Individual biometric registration (phase 2 registration) is scheduled to begin at Mussungue reception centre on 29 May. UNHCR has organized group discussions and meetings with asylum-seekers to inform them on the importance, modalities and timings of the registration. UNHCR is also preparing Cacanda reception centre for biometric registration through electrification of the registration centre as well as improving the water supply for those who are waiting to be registered.

UNHCR, UNICEF and MSF have jointly erected tents in Cacanda reception centre to conduct protection interviews with individuals identified to be in need of further assistance. Priority is given to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence as well as to protect unaccompanied and separated children, who are being accommodated in separate shelters.



HEALTH

MSF will undertake a mass vaccination campaign (vitamin A and albendazol for children under 5 and multi-antigens vaccinations) at Cacanda reception centre during 24-28 May and at Mussungue reception centre during 27-28 May. MSF will also conduct nutritional screening during the campaign. Routine Expanded Programme on Immunization vaccinations will be provided by UNICEF and the Provincial Health Directorate.



FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

UNHCR distributed food for some 2,500 asylum-seekers hosted in Mussungue reception centre on 20 May. This included maize flour, beans, vegetable oil and salt for the next 14 days. WFP has indicated that it will start food delivery in June.

UNHCR and WFP held focus group discussions with asylum-seekers in Cacanda reception centre as part of a cash-based interventions feasibility assessment to understand better food and nutritional habits as well as livelihood activities of asylum-seekers before their displacement.



SHELTER AND NFIS

The Government of Angola has decided to open a new site in Lovua Municipality to relocate asylum-seekers from Cacanda and Mussungue reception centres and continues to provide transport to new arrivals from the border area. The Provincial Delegation of the National Institute of Demining has certified that the site is suitable for hosting refugees. The site was jointly assessed by a UNHCR site planner and field safety advisor, as well as a WASH expert from UNICEF. Angolan authorities are developing an initial roadmap to carry out the relocation. Preparations are underway to set up infrastructure and necessary services to receive asylum-seekers.

UNHCR has requested MINARS to identify a third reception centre to decongest Cacanda and Mussungue reception centres pending the development of the new site in Lovua Municipality. Both existing centres are already over-crowded and unable to accommodate more arrivals.

UNHCR and partners have pitched so far some 50 tents in Cacanda reception centre to provide shelter for vulnerable individuals and families. Furthermore, existing shelters were reinforced with plastic sheeting to improve the living conditions and provide more privacy to families. The cleaning of Cacanda reception centre and its surrounding areas, with the assistance of asylum-seekers, has resulted in additional space to erect more tents. Due to limited space in Mussungue reception centre, UNHCR and partners are identifying suitable space in surrounding areas. Some 15 tents and 30 plastic sheets were provided to the most vulnerable in Mussungue reception centre to improve shelter conditions. UNHCR distributed sleeping mats, blankets, solar lamps and kitchen sets in Mussungue reception centre on 20 May.

Within the framework of the Refugee Coordination Model, the emergency telecommunications sector has assessed reception centres and offices in Dundo and the Lovua area to identify critical communications needs. UNHCR is liaising with national service providers to expand communications networks into these areas.



WATER AND SANITATION

UNHCR, UNICEF and MSF are setting up more latrines in reception centres. UNHCR is also trucking clean water to both Cacanda and Mussungue reception centres.

Working in partnership

A high level Inter-Ministerial mission led by the Minister of MINARS and accompanied by the UN Resident Coordinator, as well as the representatives of UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP and WHO visited Lunda Norte Province during 17-20 May to strengthen the coordinated response from the Government and UN agencies. The Minister was accompanied by the key officials from the Ministries of Defence; Interior; Health; Agriculture; Rural Development; and Water, Energy and Planning, which form part of the Inter-Ministerial Committee created by the Government of Angola to respond to influx of Congolese asylum-seekers from the Kasai region. The mission visited Cacanda and Mussungue reception centres, the new site in Lovua Municipality, as well as the local hospital receiving wounded and sick asylum-seekers from the border and reception centres.

On 20 May, the Inter-Ministerial Committee as well as the UN Resident Coordinator, UNHCR and UNICEF accompanied Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Angola and the DRC to assess the living conditions in reception centres. Congolese refugees reiterated that they do not wish to return to Kasai region.

Financial Information

UNHCR Angola had an initial annual budget of **USD 2.5 million** to protect and assist some 46,000 people of concern. In response to the current emergency, UNHCR is appealing for a total of **USD 6.5 million** to provide immediate lifesaving assistance, including food, nutrition, public health and core relief items.

Humanitarian agencies, led by UNHCR, are in the process of finalizing an Inter-Agency Emergency Response Plan to provide protection and assistance to Congolese refugees in Northern Angola until end of 2017. This includes the development of a new site in Lovua Municipality as well as the relocation of new arrivals from the DRC.

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to the Angola operation, as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds.

Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2017

United States of America (95 M) | Sweden (76 M) | Netherlands (52 M) | Norway (41 M) | Denmark (23 M) | Australia (19 M) | Switzerland (15 M) | Private donors in Spain (13 M) | Germany (12 M) |

Thanks to other donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2017

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