At its peak in 2001, Zambia hosted over 250,000 refugees, mainly from Angola and the DRC. Smaller numbers of refugees originated from Rwanda, Burundi, Somalia and other nationalities. These refugee numbers have since drastically reduced due to the successful voluntary repatriation of Angolans, Congolese and other nationalities in the past 16 years. However, in the last one year, the numbers of refugees are steadily increasing due to inflows from the DRC and Burundi and continued mixed migration from the other Great Lakes countries and the Horn of Africa.

**Persons of Concern by Location**

- **56%** are refugees and asylum seekers from DR Congo.
- **4** main locations
- **13** actors (GoZ, UN, NGOs, Red Cross) are providing protection and assistance

**Operational Challenge**
- Remote location of refugee settlements
- Limited freedom of movement outside the settlements
- Limited funding
- **1,468** Permits issued to former Rwandan refugees by the GoZ
- **298** Departures to third countries

**SPECIAL THANKS TO THE DONORS OF EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS**

- United States
- CERF
- United Kingdom
- France
- Sweden
- Denmark
- European Union
- Denmark
- Sweden
- United States

**Key Dates**
- April 2014: The GoZ launched the Strategic Framework for the Local Integration of Former Refugees in Zambia aiming to support their local and socio-economic integration.
- December 2016: The Office of the Commissioner for Refugees (COR) handed over the socio-economic component of the Local Integration programme to the Department of Resettlement in the Office of the Vice President.
- November 2017: The GoZ made a number of landmark commitments at the UN Leaders’ Summit on Refugees towards improving the lives and rights of refugees living in Zambia. In this line, it volunteered to roll-out the CRRF in November 2017.

**UNHCR Focus**

**DRC emergency**

UNHCR and its partners continue to provide critical protection, shelter, water, sanitation, health and nutrition assistance, and also offer support services to survivors of SGBV.

**Durable solutions**

Promote and implement durable solutions by facilitating voluntary repatriation of refugees, promoting the adoption of provisions enabling the local integration of refugees and through resettlement to third countries.

**Capacity Building**

Continue strengthening the capacity of the Government to provide protection to all women, men, girls and boys who are seeking asylum, or who have been granted refugee status in Zambia.