

Republic of Congo (RoC)

DRC asylum seekers: On 16 December 2018, Districts of Makotipoko and Bouemba received thousands of asylum seekers who fled the Yumbi areas in the Province of Mai-Ndombe (DRC).

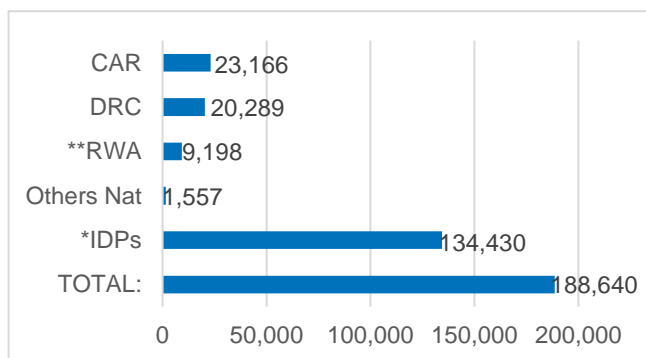
Following a joint UNHCR-Government registration mission, some 10.000 asylum seekers were identified and **8,452** have been registered.

Repatriation of CAR refugees:

The voluntary repatriation of CAR refugees is ongoing. Since 2018, UNHCR facilitated the repatriation of **7,132** refugees to Central African Republic.

POPULATION OF CONCERN (AS OF 31 AUGUST 2019)

Country of origin

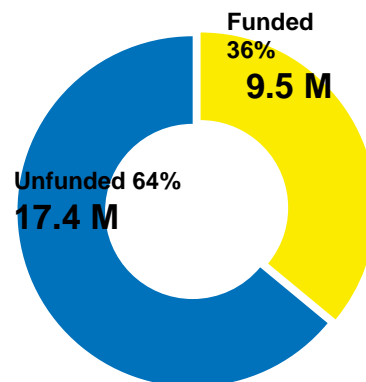


* Source: Ministry of Social Affairs and Humanitarian Action
 ** The Rwandan population "Others of concern" is composed of: former refugees affected by the cessation clause and children registered without birth certificate.

FUNDING (AS OF 24 SEPTEMBER 2019)

USD 26.9 M

requested for refugee situations in the Republic of the Congo



UNHCR PRESENCE (AS OF 31 AUGUST 2019)

Staff:

- 45 National Staff
- 9 International Staff
- 10 UN Volunteers
- 1 Consultant
- 1 Deployee

Offices:

- 1 Country Representation in Brazzaville
- 1 Field Office in Bétou.
- 1 Field Office in Gamboma.



A convoy carrying refugees is crossing the border, moving to CAR. ©UNHCR/ASSORY

Working with Partners

UNHCR works closely with the Government, in particular the CNAR (National committee for assistance to refugees) to ensure protection and solutions projects are developed and implemented for refugees and asylum seekers in the Republic of Congo. Other partners include: AARREC (Social services, CRIs, livelihoods), AIRD (logistics, WASH and shelter), TSF (healthcare and nutrition), and CEMIR (SGBV). UNHCR also partners with UN agencies to implement programs, in particular WFP, UNICEF, UNFPA and WHO.

Main Activities

DRC asylum seekers:

- In the context of the response to the arrival of some 10, 000 asylum seekers from the Yumbi areas (Mai-Ndombe Province - DRC) in December 2018, UNHCR established a Field Office in Gamboma after the emergency team deployment.
- The joint UNHCR-Government mission registered (BIMS) **8,452** asylum seekers.
- UNHCR constructed a relocation site in Bouemba to host asylum seekers who are living in Makotipoko, Bouemba village and Mpouya. As of 31st August, **1,499** have been relocated and the operation is ongoing.
- Due to the weather risks (floods) in Makotipoko, UNHCR is intensifying sensitization of asylum seekers on the relocation to Bouemba.

Protection

- The Council of Ministers approved a draft national law on the right of asylum and refugee status. It will be sent to Parliament for adoption. The text determines the eligibility criteria for refugee status in the Congo, and guarantees to recognized refugees protection throughout its territory. It defines the guarantee of the principles of non-refoulement and access to the asylum procedure, the bodies determining refugee status, the conditions for exclusion or loss of status, the rights and obligations of refugees, as well as all legal and practical mechanisms to be implemented in collaboration with UNHCR.
- UNHCR and the National Commission of Human Rights of Congo (CNDH) signed a Memorandum of Understanding to strengthen the technical and operational capacities of the CNDH.
- UNHCR supported the Congolese Government in the development and the adoption of a national plan on statelessness in the Republic of the Congo.

- UNHCR also sensitized members of the Congolese Parliament on statelessness issues. The Parliament members committed to support the adhesion process of the Republic of the Congo to the statelessness conventions.
- **60** traditional leaders were sensitized on the statelessness case identification mechanisms in the Likouala department, which is one of the main areas at risk of statelessness in the RoC.

Education

- **2, 000** refugees (children) in Brazzaville and in the Likouala Department have been assisted by UNHCR and its partners.
- **149** boys and girls attending school have been identified and assisted among the DRC's asylum seekers in the Plateaux Department.

Durable solutions:

- UNHCR facilitated the voluntary repatriation of 3, 596 CAR refugees this year and 7,132 since 2018. Due to financial constraints, some candidates willing to be repatriated are still standing-by, especially in Brazzaville and Pointe Noire.
- **15** refugees (Rwandans and Congolese) have been resettled in the USA since January, 2019.

Livelihoods:

- UNHCR granted 44 self-reliance projects (agriculture, fishing and livestock) to **268** refugees in the Department of Likouala.

Health:

- UNHCR is supporting, through TSF, its medical partner, 06 health centers (Ikpengbéle, URNI, Bétou, Dongou, Ibenga and Impfondo) in the Likouala department where the large part of refugees lives. UNHCR is also supporting 02 centers in the department of the Plateaux (Bouemba and Makotipoko).

External / Donors Relations

Special thanks to major donors of UNHCR in the Republic of the Congo:

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA | GERMANY | CERF | UN Peacebuilding Fund | UN Programme on HIV/AIDS

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