

Zambia

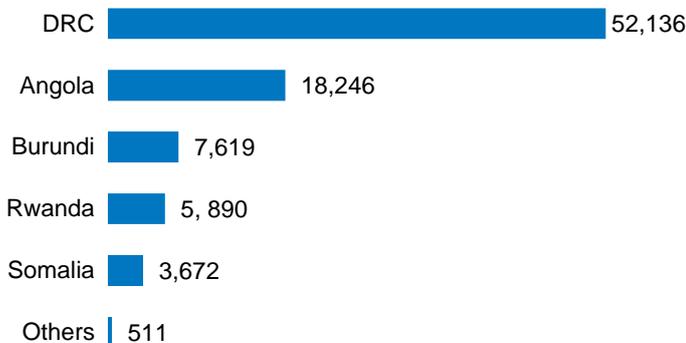
31 March 2020

Zambia registered **448** new arrivals during the month of March. **289** came from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), **130** from Burundi, **17** Somalia and the rest from other states.

800 PoCs were registered on the Nchelenge District portal of the Zambia Agriculture Management Information System (ZAMIS) thus increasing their eligibility to accessing related agricultural support from Government.

So far in 2020, before the temporary suspension of the resettlement departures amid the COVID-19 situation, **88** refugees have departed on resettlement from Zambia.

TOTAL POPULATION OF CONCERN AS OF 31 MARCH 2020: 87,074 INDIVIDUALS; 28,866 HOUSEHOLDS



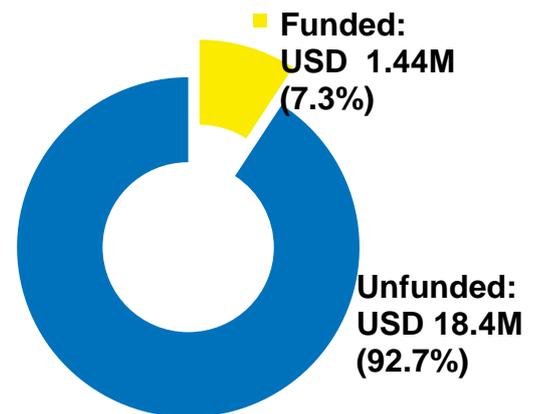
Countries of Origin

**Other Nationalities include : Congo Brazzaville, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Liberia, Namibia, Nigeria, State of Palestine, Sierra Leone, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, Zimbabwe.

FUNDING (AS OF 31 MARCH 2020)

USD 19,800,016

UNHCR's 2020 requirements for the Zambia operation:



UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff:

- 51 National
- 17 International
- 24 Affiliate

Offices:

- 1 Representation Office in Lusaka
- 2 Field Offices in Solwezi and Kawambwa
- 1 Field Unit in Kaoma

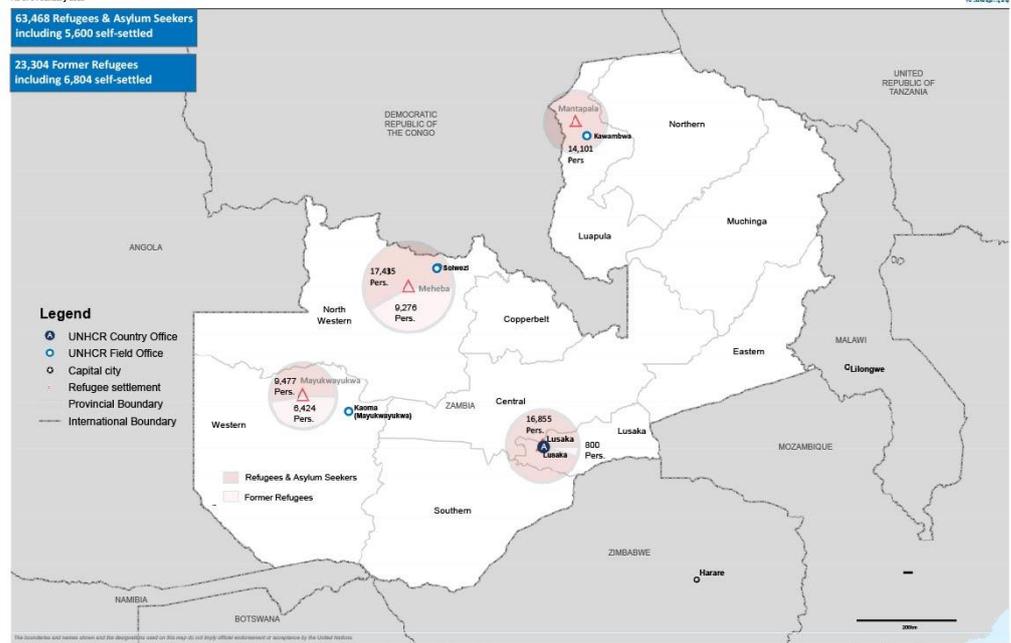
UNHCR Zambia: People of Concern

The map shows the total number of People of Concern to UNHCR by location including Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Former Refugees

As of 31 January 2020

63,468 Refugees & Asylum Seekers including 5,600 self-settled

23,304 Former Refugees including 6,804 self-settled



Working with Partners

- UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, works closely with the Office of the Commissioner for Refugees (COR) in the Ministry of Home Affairs and key government line ministries.
- It also works in partnership with the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) and I-NGOs, such as Action Africa Help, Plan International, Caritas Czech Republic, CARE International and World Vision Zambia.
- Most of the NGOs and UN agencies provide support to Congolese refugees, the majority of whom live in Mantapala Settlement, in northern Zambia.
- Together with the government, UNHCR also provides basic social support to persons of concern in Lusaka as well as the older refugee settlements of Meheba and Mayukwayukwa, in Western and North Western provinces, respectively.

Main Activities

Protection

- Zambia registered a total of 448 new arrivals in March 2020. Of the 448 registered, 74 arrived in Zambia in March, while the rest in either January or February 2020. Most of the arrivals (289) came from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), 130 from Burundi and 17 from Somalia and the rest were of other nationalities. Zambia has continued to receive asylum-seekers, though in small numbers, mainly from the DRC, Burundi and Somalia. A total of 79 In-Situ and 114 births were registered.
- The population of concern (by location) in Zambia as of 31 March is broken down as follows:
 - Mantapala settlement: 14,319 individuals (14,318 are Refugees and one Asylum-seeker),
 - Meheba refugee settlement: 27,177 individuals (17,420 are refugees, 463 Asylum-seekers and 9,294 Former refugees);
 - Mayukwayukwa refugee settlement: 16,152 individuals (9,747 are refugees, 18 Asylum-seekers and 6,387 Former refugees);
 - Urban Lusaka and Ndola: 18,022 individuals (12,373 are refugees, 4,834 Asylum-seekers and 815 Former refugees).
 - Self-Settled (Government estimates): 12,404 individuals (5,600 refugees and 6,804 Former refugees).
- During the period under review, the major pre-occupation by the protection team in Lusaka and the field revolved around COVID – 19 mitigation strategies. At the end of March, a consultative meeting was held with 12 (6 m, 6F) urban refugee leaders representing four main nationalities (DRC, Burundi, Somali and Rwanda) to discuss protection risk mitigation strategies during the COVID-19 period and to share awareness information to refugees. Information was shared referral pathways, World Vision Zambia toll free line for children at risk and as well as persons at risk of sexual exploitation and abuse, including WHO guidelines on hygiene in various languages.
- In March, UNHCR, working the SGBV Partner in Lusaka, CARE International, facilitated a men's network meeting in one of the high-density areas of the city - Chipata outreach center - aimed at increasing community support for SGBV case identification, referrals and support to survivors. The meeting targeted key influencers in the community who included businessmen and religious leaders. During the meeting, the men committed to sensitizing other members of the community.
- Care International, with support from UNHCR, continued conducting various activities at Safe spaces and Safe park, in line with the ISIBINDI project, with two Gender trainings conducted for 33 women and 42 girls to address the root causes of SGBV, and eight safe park sessions for 768 children (425 boys and 343 girls) to encourage them to identify and develop their personal talents.

Education

- Education support for children at the Makeni Transit Centre safe-house in Lusaka was assessed and schools were paid directly. Children staying at the safe-house are part of those at risk of missing out on education while at the Safe House. Hence, they have been included in the education support given to vulnerable children in Lusaka.
- In Mantapala Settlement, Plan International commenced the construction of two school blocks, each containing three classrooms. When completed there will be 35 classrooms giving a pupil-classroom ratio of about 52:1 to three streams of class sessions. All classroom chalk boards in both schools in Mantapala were rehabilitated by UNICEF.

Health

- During the month under review, COVID-19 preparedness activities were implemented in the settlements in addition to provision of regular essential health services.

- UNHCR was part of covid-19 response inter-agency Health coordination mechanisms at national and district levels, as well as participation in the Flash Funding Appeal. UNHCR's health unit supported the development of a contingency plan for COVID-19 preparedness, prevention and response in refugee settings in Zambia.
- In the domain of Hygiene-promotion, UNHCR and partners provided soap to refugees in all three settlements at double the usual monthly rations; each refugee received 500 G/ person/ month; this is expected to cover the next three months.
- Some 60 Hygiene promoters conducted door-to-door sensitization sessions among refugees and the host communities and 60 hand-basins were distributed in the three settlements for use in service areas.
- As a further preparedness measure, 42 health staff linked to Meheba and Mayukwayukwa settlements were trained on COVID-19 surveillance, case-identification and case-management. Similar training has taken place in Mantapala Settlement, including briefing session for Community Health Workers, Community Protection Workers and Community leaders.
- In a bid to limit chances of importation of COVID-19 into refugee settlements, 23 Infrared thermometers were dispatched to the field for mandatory temperature screening of everyone entering into refugee settlements, transit centers as well as UNHCR premises. Additionally, Isolation centres were being established and furnished in the three refugee settlements for any COVID-19 eventuality. The objective is to isolate and evaluate new arrivals and suspected cases as per Ministry of Health guidelines. During the month under review, no PoC had contracted Coronavirus.

Food Security and Nutrition

- In Mantapala Settlement, a total of 37 malnourished children received supplementary food, while 14 were weaned off from support due to full recovery. The Ministry of Health continued providing nutrition education support, especially to pregnant and lactating mothers in the settlements at clinics during antenatal sessions.
- World Food Programme (WFP) has indicated to UNHCR that, owing to funding constraints, it may discontinue food distribution to Congolese refugees in Mantapala Settlement.

Water and Sanitation

- Amid the COVID – 19 situation, community workers continued with hygiene promotion in the three refugee settlements, as well as the transit centre and health post in Lusaka. Provision of water and sanitation continued in the settlements and the reception center in Lusaka.
In Mantapala Settlement, a total of five (5) permanent latrines, consisting of 25 dropholes were near completion in both schools.

Shelter/ NFIs and logistics

- CARITAS Czech Republic completed constructing the Main Market in Block-12 in Mantapala Settlement, bringing the total number of markets to three, and will soon be inspected and certified by authorities for use by both refugees and hosts traders.
- A total of 14 light vehicles were procured by UNHCR and are ready for hand-over to replace old fleet (over five years) for implementing partners.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management

- The refugee response is led and coordinated by the Government of the Republic of Zambia in order to achieve the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Zambia' Seventh National Development Plan (SNDP) and the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF). Under the Refugee Act (Government Of Zambia Act No. 1 Of 2017), COR, within the Ministry of Home Affairs, is mandated to deal with refugee matters. Thus, Zambia has since 2018 adopted the mainstreaming approach, which requires that the line ministries of Agriculture, Health, Education and Community services (which previously were engaged under separate Project Partnership Agreements (PPAs)) contribute to key sectors under COR. Coordination of the different sectors and partners is managed through bi-monthly and monthly interagency meetings at field and country level, respectively. This interaction is further strengthened through sectoral and bilateral stakeholder interactions. UNHCR remains the primary interlocutor and lead agency for all refugee matters among the UN family. To respond to the Congolese refugee emergency in a holistic and coordinated manner, the Government of the Republic of Zambia has established an Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) composed of key line ministries. The Committee remains valid and active post-emergency.

Access to Energy

- Refugees in all three settlements continue to rely on firewood, candles, solar panels and battery powered energy for lighting and related domestic use.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- UNHCR and the livelihoods partner, Caritas Czech Republic (CCR), jointly with the Office of the Commissioner of Refugees, in the Ministry of Home Affairs, undertook a field mission to Kaoma District and Mayukwayukwa Refugee Settlement, during which bilateral consultations were held with the District Commissioner and different District Departments. The objective of the mission was to engage relevant District Departments on the implementation of Government's pledge, during the Global Refugee Forum (GRF), to include supported refugees and former refugees in Government-led agricultural input support programme (FISP). Kaoma District Agricultural Co-ordinator gave

assurance of his office's readiness to facilitate inclusion of refugees and former refugees in the programme through laid down due process.

- Owing to the Covid-19 crisis, livelihoods project partner, CCR, employed measures to protect staff working in the settlements. Direct engagement with beneficiaries was limited. To reduce and mitigate potential impact on programming, selection of potential beneficiaries continued through phone interviews.
- In Lusaka, refugee traders engaged in non-food businesses have reported increased negative impact on their enterprises as sales dwindle amid COVID – 19 Government restrictions and partial lockdown. The livelihoods team continued to monitor and journey with affected small scale traders, including referring those severely affected for counselling and social support.
- 800 PoCs were registered on the Nchelenge District portal of the Zambia Agriculture Management Information System (ZAMIS) thus increasing their eligibility to accessing related agricultural support by the Government.

Durable Solutions

- So far in 2020, before the temporary suspension of the resettlement departures amid the COVID-19 situation, 88 refugees have departed on resettlement from Zambia. The departures were to the United States of America (US) – 64 and Finland – 24. In 2019, a total of 462 refugees departed for resettlement from Zambia as follows: the United States – 179, Finland – 186, Sweden – 70, Canada – 19, Norway – eight.
- According to Government statistics, as of 23 March, the total number of applications in Lusaka, Meheba and Mayukwayukwa Refugee Settlement was 9,110. Of the 9,110, those processed were 3,668 and total permits issued to applicants were 1,482. There were 5,442 pending applications.
- For Rwandese, in Lusaka, Meheba and Mayukwayukwa Refugee Settlements, the accumulative number of applications was 3,706, with 1,473 applications processed and 956 permits issued to applicants. Additionally, there were 517 permits pending and 2,233 applications pending.

External / Donors Relations

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors which have contributed to the Zambia operation in 2020 with special thanks to: **the United States of America, Japan, Czech Republic and the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security**; and to all donors giving unearmarked and softly earmarked funds, including Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Kuwait, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Uruguay, along with private donors from Australia, Republic of Korea, and Spain.

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