

ZAMBIA

IN SHORT

Main Objectives

- Maintain adequate emergency preparedness to protect and assist new refugees who may arrive from neighbouring countries and help them find long-term solutions.
- Pursue efforts to locally integrate and achieve self-reliance for urban and rural refugees.
- Promote a positive climate for asylum and help create a legal environment conducive to the protection and integration of refugees.



Planning Figures

Population	Jan. 2000	Dec. 2000
Angolan Refugees*	153,000	158,000
Congolese Refugees*	36,500	36,500
Other Refugees*	10,500	11,500
Total	200,000	206,000

* Some 120,000 Angolans and 10,000 refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo are self-settled. UNHCR's assistance benefits some 30,000 Angolans, 10,000 Congolese and 5,000 other refugees.

Total Requirements

USD 5,938,363



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WORKING ENVIRONMENT

Recent Developments

The political and economic environment in Zambia is stable compared to that of its north-western neighbours. UNHCR has maintained emergency-preparedness over the past years, including by stockpiling relief supplies, so as to be in a position to respond to possible influxes from Angola or the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). This preparedness enabled UNHCR to respond quickly to the arrival into the Kaputa region of 25,000 refugees from the DRC in 1999. Some 14,000 persons have since been assisted in Mwange camp while 10,000 settled spontaneously along the border. What was initially an emergency operation has since become part of the regular programme. The continuing conflict in DRC has dampened hopes that the signing of a cease-fire agreement in July 1999 would permit refugees to return home.

Arrivals from Angola, initially about 100 people every month, increased during the last quarter of 1999 owing to the spread of fighting into Angola's Moxico province.

Constraints

As social and economic conditions worsen, the Government's asylum policy has become less receptive to asylum-seekers, particularly towards urban groups, which complicates UNHCR's task of finding immediate and durable solutions. The arrival of new refugees into existing settlements has a negative impact on self-sufficiency programmes.

STRATEGY

Protection and Solutions

The Government has assumed full responsibility for the determination of refugee status and for protecting refugees. UNHCR closely monitors the situation and works with the authorities to promote solutions. UNHCR will advocate the rapid adoption of the Refugee Act, the rapid issuance of documentation, and a less restrictive application of legislation limiting employment of foreigners.

In view of the ongoing armed conflict in Angola, repatriation of Angolan refugees does not appear feasible in the near future. UNHCR's principal

objective is therefore to pursue maximum local integration for both rural and urban refugees. The strategy is three-pronged: naturalisation for Angolan refugees who have been staying in Zambia for a long time, fostering an environment conducive to local integration and support for refugees to become economically productive and self-sufficient. The latter has proven to be relatively successful in Zambia.

Prospects for repatriation of refugees from DRC, Rwanda and Burundi are limited. UNHCR's principal strategy is therefore to consolidate the local integration of urban refugees and refugees from previous influxes in settlements, and assist new arrivals to become economically productive and self-sufficient.

Government staff will benefit from training in international protection to increase capacity and commitment to address refugee matters in accordance with international principles. UNHCR will also sensitise the general public and the media to the plight of refugees, in order to foster a more positive climate.

Assistance

UNHCR strives to reduce the dependency of refugees from DRC on outside assistance by having them participate more fully in addressing their own needs, and by developing income-generating activities, such as gardening. Vocational training and education for refugees from DRC will take into account the possibility that they will reintegrate in due course into their home country. In the meantime, UNHCR plans to convert Mwange camp into a settlement, should repatriation not become feasible. Ex-combatants, whose prospects of repatriation remain very low, will continue to be transferred to a separate settlement.

In urban areas, UNHCR will help refugees reach a minimum sustainable level of subsistence. Refugee children will receive scholarships for secondary and post-secondary education to facilitate their future integration. UNHCR will assist with vocational training, work permits and job-placement. Micro-credit assistance will be available to boost income-generating capacity while small grants will be given to vulnerable refugees, particularly to widows or women with disabled spouses. In the settlements, UNHCR will support the maintenance of infrastructure, environmental preservation, nutrition and health care, psycho-



social counselling, and other services.

Desired Impact

Beyond meeting the basic needs of refugees, UNHCR aims to achieve attendance rates of 90 per cent for primary school children, and 60 per cent for secondary school children attending learning centres. It is intended that 60 per cent of families will be involved in growing food and that an equal proportion will use fuel-saving stoves. Trees are to be felled only in designated areas; 10,000 trees are to be planted and water sources protected.

ORGANISATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

Management Structure

In 1999, UNHCR opened new offices in Kawambwa and Mporokoso in northern Zambia to respond better to the influx of refugees from the DRC. In 2000, the Regional Office in Lusaka will comprise 34 staff (six internationals and 28 nationals). The Regional Office also supervises UNHCR's operations in Zimbabwe and Malawi.

Coordination

UNHCR enjoys excellent cooperation within the UN family, notable with UNICEF, WFP and WHO. Overall coordination, as well as donor liaison, is effectively supported by the office of the UN Resident Coordinator.

Budget (USD)	
Activities and Services	Annual Programme
Protection, Monitoring and Coordination	1,103,863
Community Services	252,476
Crop Production	182,743
Domestic Needs/ Household Support	77,976
Education	339,934
Food	19,905
Forestry	50,000
Health/Nutrition	302,205
Income Generation	159,983
Legal Assistance	256,377
Operational Support (to Agencies)	677,093
Sanitation	54,095
Shelter/Other Infrastructure	476,176
Transport/Logistics	579,714
Water (non-agricultural)	193,123
Total Operations	4,725,663
Programme Support	1,212,700
Total	5,938,363

Offices
Lusaka Kawambwa Mporokoso
Partners
Government Agencies Ministry of Home Affairs
NGOs Adventist Development and Relief Agency AFRICARE CARE Lutheran World Federation OXFAM World Vision International YMCA Zambian Red Cross Society
Other United Nations Volunteers

