



UNHCR OPERATION IN ZAMBIA

FACTSHEET

April 2016

HIGHLIGHTS

| | | | |
|--|--|---|---|
| <p>7,000</p> <p>Students assisted with education.</p> | <p>1,930 asylum-seekers pending status determination applications, the majority originating from the Great Lakes region</p> | <p>332</p> <p>Zambia has submitted 332 persons for further processing under resettlement</p> | <p>1,749</p> <p>Vulnerable individuals and new arrivals assisted with cash based interventions</p> |
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Population of concern

A total of **53,413** people of concern (as of 29 Feb. 2016)

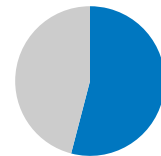
By country of origin

| Country | Total PoC |
|--------------|---------------|
| Burundi | 3,758 |
| DRC | 20,830 |
| Somalia | 2,939 |
| Rwanda | 6,203 |
| Angola | 19,302 |
| Other | 381 |
| Total | 53,413 |

Funding

USD 19,169,270 requested

Gap
74%



Funded
26%

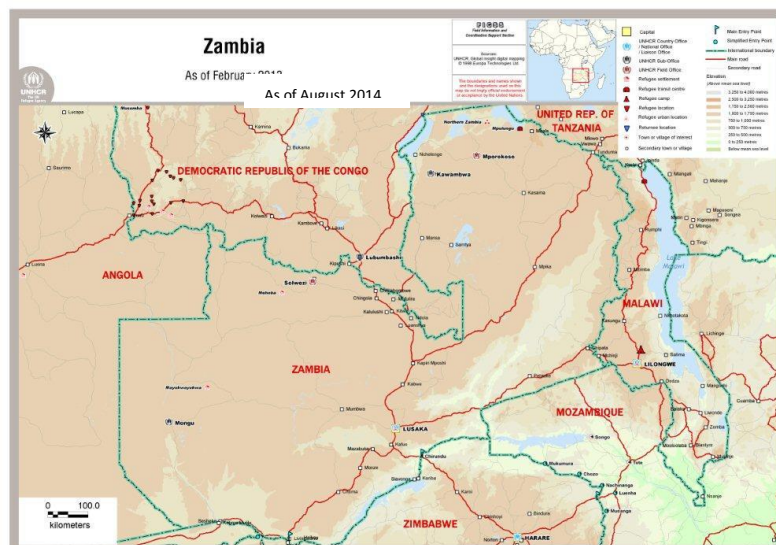
UNHCR Presence

Staff:

- 42 national staff
- 11 international staff
- 16 affiliated staff

Offices:

- 3 offices located in: CO Lusaka, FO Solwezi, FO Kaom



WORKING WITH PARTNERS

The Ministry of Home Affairs is UNHCR's main official link with Government. UNHCR also collaborates with other ministries on specific issues. UNHCR coordinates humanitarian, repatriation and integration assistance with: [Action Africa Help](#) | [Min. of Home Affairs /Commissioner for Refugees Office](#) | [Min. of Health](#) | [Min. of Education](#) | [Min. of Community Development Mother and Child Health](#) | [Min. of Agriculture and Livestock](#) | [Min. of Energy and Water Development](#) | [International Development Enterprise \(IDE\)](#) | [World Vision Zambia \(WVZ\)](#) | [Caritas Czech Republic](#) | [Buildcon](#) | [Concern Worldwide](#) | [Habitat for Humanity Zambia](#)

MAJOR HIGHLIGHT

- In December 2015 and March 2016 respectively, the country lost two of the most active advocates for refugee rights and the architects of the local integration program in Zambia, the Commissioner for Refugees, Mr Jacob Mphemo, and the local integration National Coordinator, Dr Dominic Minyoi. Both working within the Ministry of Home Affairs.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection and legal issues

- The majority of POCs reside in the settlements of Meheba and Mayukwayukwa. The rest of the people of concern are scattered all over the country. The Government of the Republic of Zambia (GRZ) is responsible for conducting refugee status determination. UNHCR is part of the National Eligibility Committee and provides technical advice and country of origin information. UNHCR also provides training for officials on the NEC.
- New asylum seekers, predominantly from the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of Congo and from Burundi, continue to seek protection in Zambia at a rate of an average of 180 new registrations per month. 1325 Burundians have arrived in Zambia between April 2015 and end of March 2016, fleeing the political instability and violence prevailing in their country. 1527 Congolese have arrived and sought protection in Zambia during the same period.
- UNHCR Zambia is hosting the Zambian national refugee youth consultations in Lusaka in April 2016. These consultations are meant to provide an opportunity for refugee youth and national host community youth to come together and have a voice in matters that affect them. The Consultations are set to take place in 10 countries and refugee and host country youth who are selected to participate will work together to build alliances and partnerships between them at a national, regional and global level.

.Education

- Although the Government of Zambia made reservations to art. 22 of the 1951 Convention in relation to access to education, in actual fact refugee children in Zambia benefit from similar access to primary and secondary education as national learners. The main challenges hindering access to education for refugee children and youth are related to economic factors. UNHCR assists the most vulnerable students with payment of education materials and other related costs for primary education (which is free of charge but bears various related costs) and with limited scholarships for secondary and tertiary education. In the urban areas, with a total number of over 2,500 registered children of primary and secondary school age, UNHCR supports a total of 437 vulnerable students in accessing primary and secondary education in government and community schools. In the two settlements, refugees also attend primary and secondary school alongside Zambian students who make up around 30% amongst the total student population of around 7,000. In Meheba refugee settlement, there are five government primary schools and nine community schools as well as a secondary school. In Mayukwayukwa refugee settlement, there are two government-run primary and two community schools and a secondary school. Community schools in the settlements are run thanks to UNHCR funds. Limited, fund constraints available have limited the number of students UNHCR could support to tertiary education and the total number of recipients of a bursary under the DAFI program in 2016 has decreased to 34 students.(from 45 in 2015).

Health

- UNHCR is working with the Zambian Government through the Ministry of Health to ensuring quality primary health care services delivery to persons of concern in the settlements and in urban areas. UNHCR currently supports six clinics in the settlements through additional health staff, staff incentives, supplementary medicines and supplies, and operational support. Recently two upgraded clinics in the settlements and one clinic in Lusaka were handed over to the Ministry of Health. Primary Health Care

Services are offered to both persons of concern and local populations in the settlements. Services include immunization, reproductive health and family planning, HIV and ART services, nutrition, medical care, control of communicable and non-communicable disease, laboratory services, and outreach programs. Just recently, Cervical Cancer Screening and Treatment program was established and added to the existing primary health services in the settlements.

- For the 1st quarter of 2016, more than 23,500 people have accessed health services in the different clinics in the settlement and about 30% of them were nationals. In the Urban areas, refugees access primary health care services freely to the nearest government health clinics from their residence. In the past months, training on Cervical Cancer Screening and Treatment for 16 health workers in Southern African Region which included nine participants from the Mayukwayukwa and Meheba settlements was conducted in Meheba settlements. Moreover, a Workshop on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support was conducted for UNHCR and Partners' staff, while training on Psychosocial Counselling by the Regional Psychosocial Support Initiative (REPSSI) has been conducted for 25 community workers and volunteers in the two settlements. Furthermore, training on Anti-Retro Viral Therapy (ART) adherence tool, use to document adherence of HIV patients who are on ART, was conducted to health workers in the settlements.

Community Empowerment and Self-reliance

- UNHCR, working with the Government, continues to promote self-reliance activities targeting refugees and former refugees in the two settlements. Key interventions include income generating activities such as fish farming, bee-keeping, farming and livestock, as well as training in business and entrepreneurship skills.
- Following the replacement of direct monthly food distribution provided to vulnerable refugees with cash assistance in an effort to increase their purchasing potential, 14 distributions from January 2015 to April 2016 have been conducted with the latest distribution targeting 2,220 individuals (1,402 new arrivals and 818 vulnerable persons). The increase in the number of new arrivals from the previous 836 individuals is attributed to the situation in Burundi. The core purpose of the cash assistance was to enable refugees to meet their minimum needs and in the process accord them dignity and freedom of choice
- Under the Local Integration program, UNHCR and partners (ILO, IFAD, IOM, INGO) are scaling up livelihoods interventions, addressing issues related to savings and access to finance, training in farming methods and environmental protection, access to markets and promoting community cohesion and formation of networks and cooperatives.

Voluntary Repatriation

- With the discontinuation of the assisted voluntary repatriation program for Angolan former refugees at the end of September 2015, no further return movement has taken place.
- UNHCR is ready to continue assisting individual cases who express the desire to voluntarily repatriate to their country of origin, however very few of any refugees have approach UNHCR to seek assistance for return so far in 2016.

Resettlement

- Zambia targets to resettle 1,300 persons in 2016 from the two refugee settlements and Lusaka. During the first quarter of 2016, 146 individuals have been submitted for resettlement, further 156 individuals are at the review stage at ROSA, and 79 have departed to the resettlement countries, while identification and processing of cases is ongoing.

The main resettlement case identification mechanism is through profiling of refugees. In addition, cases may be referred for resettlement from the Protection Panels. The majority of the refugees that have been processed for resettlement in Zambia are from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), while smaller numbers of refugees of other nationalities are also considered.

Local integration

- In June 2015, the Zambian Government approved the Rwandan local integration. The Inter-Ministerial Steering Committee has since drafted the local integration criteria, which has finally been approved by the Minister of Home Affairs. The government has pledged to integrate up to 4, 000 eligible Rwandans and 10, 000 Angolans. To date, 6, 431 Angolans have been screened and found eligible for local integration, and some 1,122 residency permits have been issued. An additional 18 residency have been issued to the former Rwandan refugees. Furthermore, in the resettlement schemes, a total of 1,213 farm plots have been surveyed/demarcated, with 1,724 families having applied for land. Some 1,134 households have been allocated plots in the resettlement schemes, of which 923 have been issued with letters of occupancy and 198 families have since moved to their plots. The Ministry of Home Affairs has initiated the hand-over of the two resettlement schemes, to be managed by the Department of Resettlement in the Office of the Vice President.

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