



### HIGHLIGHTS

4,639 Angolan former refugees repatriated in 2015

**1,573**

Refugees benefitted from legal and social assistance in 2016

### Population of concern

A total of **50,337** people of concern

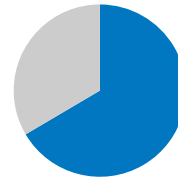
#### By country of origin

Country	Total PoC
Rwanda	340
Cote d'Ivoire	6,448
DRC	13,444
Guinea	9,253
Somalia	2,019
Other nationalities	14,194
Angolan returnees	4,639
<b>Total</b>	<b>50,337</b>

### Funding

**USD 1,274,757** requested

Gap  
49%



Funded  
51%

### UNHCR Presence

#### Staff:

- 14 national staff
- 3 international staff
- 1 affiliated staff
- 3 UN Volunteers

#### Offices:

Country Office Luanda



## WORKING WITH PARTNERS

UNHCR works with: [Refugee Department of the Ministry of Social Assistance and Reintegration \(MINARS\)](#) | [National Directory for Social Action \(DNAS\)](#) | [Service for Migration and Foreigners \(SME\)](#) | [Ministry of Family and Promotion of Women \(MINFAMU\)](#) | [International Organization for Migration \(IOM\)](#) | [Jesuit Refugee Service \(JRS\)](#)

## MAIN ACTIVITIES

### Protection

- On 17 June 2015, a new Asylum Law, adopted by the Angolan parliament in April, was promulgated by the President and came into force. The by-laws required for the implementation of the Asylum Law were not yet published, and the organs foreseen under the new Law not yet established. The Law restricts rights previously granted to asylum seekers and refugees by envisaging the creation of Reception/detention centers (“CARRA”) in the border provinces. The lack of transitional provisions created a legal vacuum, and since June 2015 there is no functioning asylum procedure in Angola
- The Angolan refugee status determination body, COREDA, the inter-ministerial committee responsible for assessing asylum cases and conducting refugee status determination (RSD) ceased to function in June 2015. All RSD files were transferred to the Ministry of Interior. The new Committee “Conselho Nacional para os Refugiados” (CNR) is yet to be created. UNHCR continues to advocate for the resumption of RSD activities and to provide guidance on refugee law and standards.
- UNHCR is providing legal assistance to refugees and asylum-seekers through a legal advisory service run by JRS. In 2016, this benefited 645 persons of concern through counseling and information.
- In the Province of Lunda Norte, 74 children of refugees were registered and are in process of being issued a birth certificates. In the Province of Luanda, 59 refugee children were registered. This presents an ad-hoc solution in a situation where in spite of UNHCR’s interventions the Ministerial Circular suspending the birth registration for all children born to foreigners has not been revoked.
- The Ministry of Justice led Inter-sectoral Working Group on the cessation of refugee status for the Rwandan and Sierra Leonean refugees and finalized the National Plan of Action for the implementation of the Comprehensive Solution Strategies as well as the Declaration to invoke Cessation that is scheduled to enter into force on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2016. Both documents were officially endorsed by the Minister of Justice.
- In light of the increased incidence of cases of detention of refugees and asylum seekers, UNHCR established a Detention Working Group that includes refugee representatives and lawyers of JRS. The objective of the group is to maximize exchanges of information and ensure quick intervention and release of the concerned individual. Refugees and Asylum seekers are often arrested by law enforcement authorities under the suspicion of being irregularly in the country and kept in detention until verification of their status. UNHCR resumed visits to the Immigration Detention Centers for Illegal Migrants (CDEI). These visits are conducted once per month jointly with JRS lawyers
- UNHCR and IOM have been jointly involved in the development of the National Plan of Actions for the implementation of the Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa (MIDSA) recommendations. A Working Group has been established under the leadership of the Ministry of Interior and is working on actions to improve the protection of unaccompanied migrant children, the voluntary and assisted return of migrants, statelessness and alternatives to detention.

### Social Assistance

- Angola hosts refugees mostly in urban areas. UNHCR is supporting the NGO Jesuit Refugee Service with an assistance program for vulnerable urban refugees. This includes ensuring access to public health, strengthening the system through which refugees are referred to local health centers and hospitals, and empowering refugee participation. Social assistance was further provided to 104 vulnerable refugees in the provinces of Lunda Norte and Luanda.

### SGBV

- UNHCR, together with MINFAMU (Ministry for the Family and Women) delivered protection and SGBV training sessions in the provinces of Lunda Sul, Lunda Norte and Cabinda. During these workshops, UNHCR sensitized Refugees, asylum seekers, representatives of several ministries, and law enforcement officials (Immigration, Police, Border Police and Economic Police) on the prevention and response to SGBV, the rights of refugees, the procedures to seek asylum in the country as well as fundamental rights in line with the Angolan Constitution.
- The MINFAMU established a national SOS phone help line for victims of SGBV. MINFAMU is gradually improving actions relating to prevention and response to SGBV through establishment of Inter sectorial Commissions and Counselling Centers in several provinces of the country.

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