



### HIGHLIGHTS

**4,639**

Angolan former refugees returned in 2015

**1,573**

Refugees benefitted from legal and social assistance in 2016

**10**

Rwandan refugees repatriated in 2016

### Population of concern

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

#### By country of origin

Country of origin	Total population of concern
Rwanda	340
Cote d'Ivoire	6,448
Democratic Republic of the Congo	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 3,731,490** requested, **0%** funded.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given unearmarked and broadly earmarked contributions to UNHCR this year, as well as the private donors who have directly contributed to the operation.

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### UNHCR Presence

#### Staff:

- 7 national staff
- 1 international staff
- 4 affiliated staff

#### Offices:

- CO Luanda



Map Sources: UNCS, UNHCR.

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Creation date: 02 Oct 2016.

# 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 of refugees and asylum-seekers

- The new asylum law entered into force on 17 June 2015, which foresees the creation of a new Refugee Status Determination Committee (*Conselho Nacional para os Refugiados*) and the introduction of a judicial appeal in second instance. However, the law has not been implemented yet. The lack of transitional provisions has created a legal vacuum and there is no functioning asylum procedure since June 2015. UNHCR advocates strongly for the resumption of refugee status determination activities.
- The new asylum law also restricts rights previously granted to asylum-seekers (right to work) and introduces a compulsory stay in closed reception centres, which are yet to be created. UNHCR advocates for reconsideration of these restrictions.
- The majority of Angolan refugees reside in urban areas. UNHCR provides legal assistance to refugees and asylum-seekers, mainly through the partner organization Jesuit Refugee Service. So far in 2016, 645 people of concern have benefitted from counseling. The Jesuit Refugee Service also provides assistance, including emergency housing and provision of medicine, to vulnerable urban refugees.
- In the Province of Lunda Norte, 74 refugee children were registered in 2016 and are in the process of being issued birth certificates. In the Province of Luanda, 73 refugee children were registered. These are temporary measures to respond to the current suspension of birth registration of all children born to foreigners in Angola. UNHCR advocates for the birth registration of asylum-seekers and refugees to prevent statelessness.
- An inter-sectoral technical working group on the cessation of refugee status for Rwandan, Sierra Leonean and Liberian refugees finalized a national plan of action for the implementation of the comprehensive solutions strategy as well as the declaration to invoke cessation. In August, an inter-ministerial commission was established by Presidential Decree and tasked to finalize the planning for the invocation of cessation for these three nationalities within a period of 18 months.
- Refugees and asylum-seekers are frequently arrested by law enforcement authorities under the suspicion of having entered the country illegally and kept in detention until verification of their status. UNHCR and the Jesuit Refugee Service conducted visits to the Detention Center for Illegal Migrants from January to May 2016. Since May, however, UNHCR has not been authorized to visit the detention center. UNHCR advocates for the continuous access to refugees and asylum-seekers in detention as well as finding alternatives to detention.
- UNHCR and IOM have been working jointly on the development of the national plan of action 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 to address the protection of unaccompanied migrant children, the voluntary and assisted return of migrants, statelessness issues and alternatives to detention.
- UNHCR, in cooperation with the Ministry for the Family and Promotion of Women Promotion, provides training on the prevention of and response to sexual and gender-based violence, most recently in the provinces of Lunda Sul, Lunda Norte, Cabinda and Cuando Cubango.

### Durable Solutions

- Nine cases (26 refugees) have been accepted for resettlement by Canada and are expect to depart early 2017.
- During May-June 2016, UNHCR and IOM assisted 10 refugees in their repatriation to Rwanda.
- There are around 60,000 former Angolan refugees that are still in asylum countries (the Government of Angola estimates there are 20,000 respectively in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Zambia, and a total of 20,000 in Namibia and South Africa). A Tripartite meeting with the Governments of Angola, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and UNHCR will be organized in the near future to officially close the voluntary repatriation programme and to find durable solutions for those residing within the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

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