

Angola

5 September 2017

There are currently **1,650 refugees living in Lóvuá settlement** following the first relocation from Cacanda reception centre on 31 August.

So far, 488 tents have been distributed to refugees in Lóvuá settlement since the beginning of the relocation.

The population in Lóvuá receive is provided with an average of **24 litres of water per person per day.**

KEY FIGURES

76%

Of Congolese refugees in Angola are women and children

31,211

Biometrically registered Congolese refugees in Dundo area (4 September 2017)

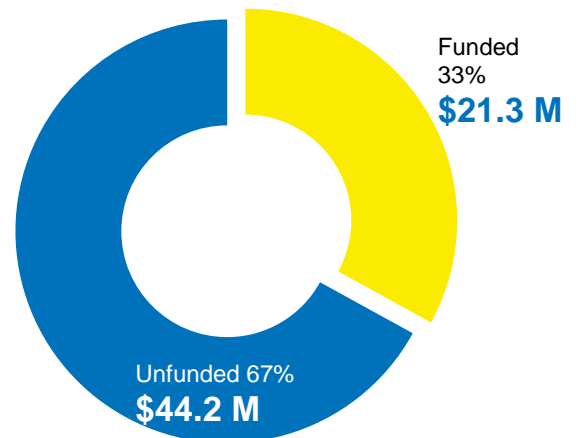
50,000

Inter-agency planning figure for Congolese refugees from the Kasai region in northern Angola by the end of the year

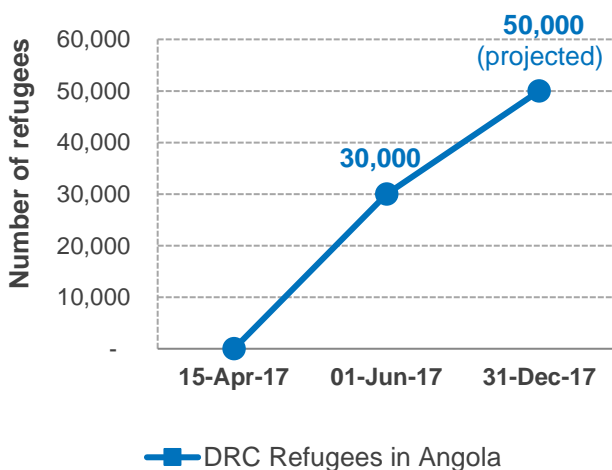
FUNDING (AS OF 5 SEPTEMBER)

USD 65,507,610

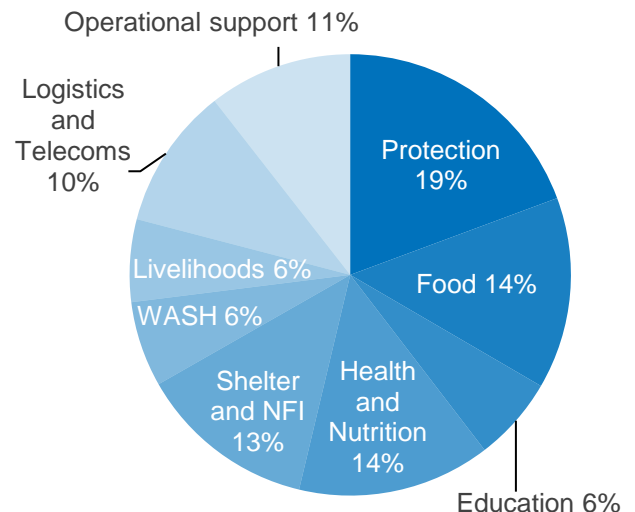
requested for Angola Inter-agency Refugee Response

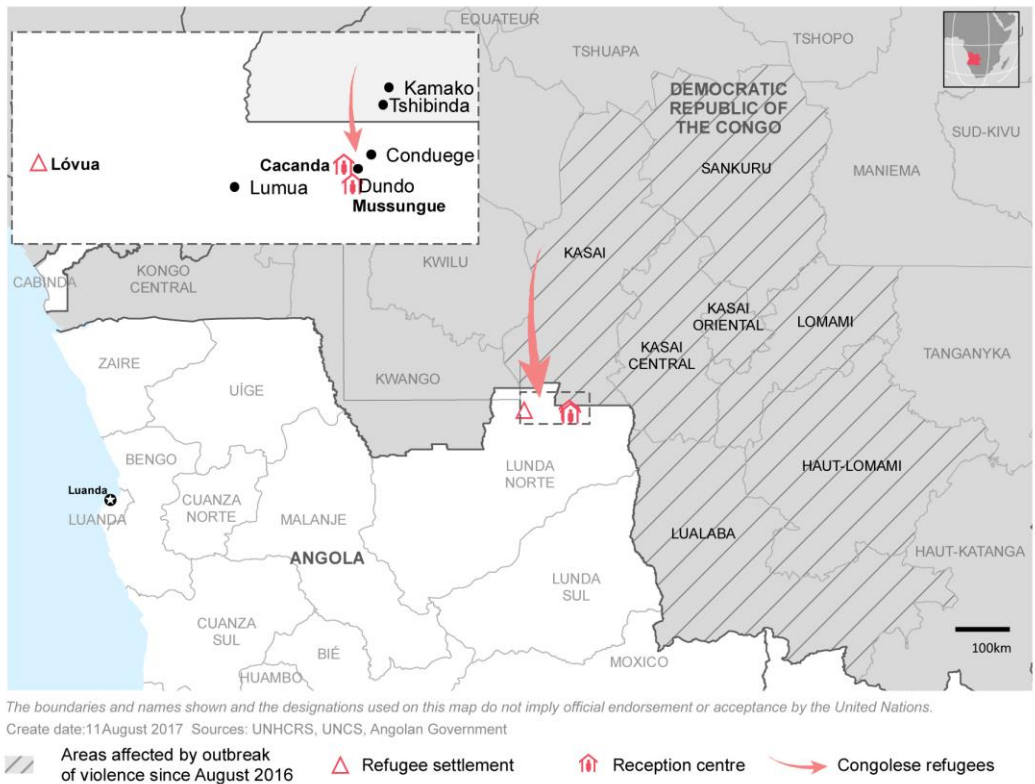


POPULATION TRENDS



FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS





Operational Context

Violence and ethnic tensions, in the Kasai region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), has forced over 31,000 Congolese to seek safety in Angola’s Lunda Norte Province. Seventy-six per cent of the registered refugees are women and children.

The DRC-Angola border serves as a main artery for trade between the two countries. While the border is closed to trade and commerce, the Government of Angola (GoA) has maintained an open door policy to welcome Congolese nationals fleeing as a result of the civil unrest.

The conflict continues and refugees report incidents of indiscriminate violence, sexual and human rights abuses, and a shortage of basic items. The number of newly arrived refugees has decreased significantly since early July. According to recently arrived refugees, access to border areas through the main roads is limited. As the security situation remains fluid in the Kasai region, humanitarian organizations are preparing to provide protection and assistance up to 50,000 Congolese refugees who may seek asylum in Angola by the end of 2017.

The relocation of Congolese refugees to Lóvua settlement started on 8 August, with the transfer of refugees living in Mussungue reception centre. On 31 August, the relocation from the overcrowded Cacanda reception centre started with the transfer of 156 individuals, representing a total of 41 households. Lóvua settlement is currently hosting 1,650 refugees

from the Kasai region of the DRC. This number is expected to increase by the end of the current week with a second convoy from Cacanda reception centre.

Due to the lack of available heavy machinery, the challenges of opening primary and secondary roads remains a major constraint in the development of Lóvua settlement. This has been hampering shelter and WASH activities, causing delays in the relocation process of refugees living in Cacanda reception centre.



Last moments before departure of the first Congolese refugees being relocated to Lóvua settlement from Cacanda reception centre. © UNHCR / Massoumeh Farman Farmaian.

Achievements



PROTECTION

Achievements and Impact

- **Registration:** As of 4 September the total number of biometrically registered refugees from the Democratic Republic of Congo is **31,211** (8,118 households). 1,650 individuals or five per cent of the refugee population live in Lóvua settlement. The change in the population figures is explained by the continuous registration of new births and the reunification of nuclear family members.
- **Relocation:** The first voluntary relocation exercise from Cacanda to Lóvua took place on 31 August with the transfer of 156 refugees, 41 households, who occupied 38 plots in village 3 Zone B. Upon arrival in Lóvua, refugees received an information package backed up by audio support in the various languages present in the settlement. The information campaign will continue in the coming days jointly with relevant partners.
- **Border monitoring:** The protection team and Ministry of Welfare and Social Reintegration (MINARS) Representative conducted a border monitoring mission to Nachiri. A meeting with border authorities confirmed that there is no large-scale returns of registered refugees to the DRC although a small number continue to cross the border. Exact figures are difficult to establish as movements recorded at the border include all individuals crossing into the DRC: Congolese who were not registered as refugees as well as those who were. According to border authorities, the situation on the DRC side of the border is calm. Protection partners conduct regular interviews with newly arrived refugee families in Cacanda reception centre in order to document the situation in the places of origin and conditions of the journey.
- **Child protection:** Protection partners conducted a short assessment of the knowledge of Lóvua Police Unit regarding child protection principles. The result of this assessment will help structure the police training to be conducted soon. The Child Friendly Spaces (CFS) welcomed 1,604 children, with a weekly average of 966 children in Cacanda and 638 in Lóvua. A new CFS is being set up in Zone B2 village to meet the needs of all children residing in zone B.
- Twenty-six children received birth registration in coordination with the government, and nineteen on the process for registration.
- **Coordination:** Lóvua's protection desk is fully operational and will be open three mornings a week. The protection desk will facilitate the identification and follow-up of protection cases in Lóvua.
- An assessment is taking place in Cacanda on persons with specific needs (PSN). This assessment aims to ensure that the PSN currently living in Cacanda will be allocated to plots with easy access to facilities.
- **Communicating with Communities (CwC):** A relocation information team was created, comprised by fifteen refugee volunteers in Cacanda reception centre and Lóvua. Volunteers work closely with the protection team to provide information to newly

arrived refugees on the site and to answer questions about Lóvua. This team will be used for other CwC activities identified both in Cacanda reception centre and Lóvua.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The protection sector is working closely with relevant partners to finalize a SGBV referral pathway.



FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

Achievements and Impact

- **General food distribution:** The Angolan authorities continued distributing dry fish to a total of 15,046 refugees living in Cacanda and surrounding host communities.
- Two mobile storage units were settled in Lóvua's base camp for the storage of food commodities.
- **Nutrition:** Partners assisted the nutritional screening of children under five years old relocated to Lóvua on 31 August. Two children under two years old were identified with Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM), one of which was referred to health partners.
- In Cacanda reception centre, 658 children were examined for malnutrition, of which ten were identified with MAM and two with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM).
- 140 tons of super cereal, targeting pregnant and lactating women, will arrive during next week to Dundo from South Africa.
- **Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF):** A focus group discussion on IYCF practices conducted with mothers, caregivers and other key informants in Cacanda, revealed the following:
 - Overall there were no major changes in the feeding practices before leaving the DRC and after arriving in Angola; the major difference was seen in the number of meals and variety of complementary foods provided to the infants and children.
 - Mothers seem aware of the importance of breastfeeding, and early initiation of breastfeeding is the common practice among refugees.
 - Although breastfeeding is well perceived and common, the practices do not comply with the recommendation of exclusive breastfeeding during the first 6 months after birth. Water, tea, sugar, and maize porridge are the usually the first foods to be introduced in an infant' diet, normally at the age of 2 to 4 months.
 - The limited financial resources of the families in the centre hampers the provision of adequate and diverse complementary foods for young children.
 - Short spacing of pregnancies is one of the main reasons for early termination of breastfeeding.
 - While wet-nursing is not common or well perceived among the DRC refugee population, there are a few cases in the centre where another woman is breastfeeding an orphan infant.
 - After leaving their village in the DRC, families have reduced the number of daily meals from 3 to 4 to once. Children under five-years old currently eat 1 to 2 meals per day.



HEALTH

Achievements and Impact

- **Primary health care and medical consultations:** General consultations have slightly increased (from 962 cases to 1,220). In Cacanda, the main morbidity factor remains malaria (31 per cent), followed by Upper Respiratory Tract Infections (URTI) (21 per cent) and osteo-muscular pain (10 per cent). In Lóvua, the main morbidity is linked to URTI (28.1 per cent), followed by malaria (14.1 per cent) and osteo-muscular pain (12.6 per cent). Dressings represent 14.7 per cent of the total consultations. Malaria cases have slightly increased.
- **Sexual reproductive health (SRH):** In Cacanda, 21 women received antenatal care (ANC); ten first consultation and eleven follow-up. In Lóvua, six received ANC consultations: one new visit and five follow-up, and one postnatal care (PNC).
- **Sexual Gender Based Violence (SGBV):** No SGBV cases were reported by the health sector during past week.
- **Mental health:** Mental health activities continued this week with a total of sixteen mental health consultations and eight group sessions conducted.
- Health partners continued the Balanced Couples Relationships counselling as well as individual emotional support and counselling to refugees related to traumatic reallocation, emotional support, stress/insomnia and low mood and loss of meaning of life. In addition, an HESPER Survey (Humanitarian Emergency Settings Perceived Needs Scale) was conducted to gather data concerning the collective and subjective perceived wellbeing by the refugee population at Lóvua settlement.



WATER AND SANITATION

Achievements and Impact

- In Cacanda reception centre, eighteen decommissioned latrines were replaced by new ones. Another seven will be built next week to complete the replacement. All latrines are maintained according to the priority of the intervention to ensure that the number of operational latrines respects the population ratio standard.
- Five emergency refuse pits were emptied through a local waste collection company, for further disposal in the municipal disposal site. Garbage bags were distributed to each household in Cacanda.
- In Lóvua settlement, WASH facilities are being installed in villages 4B, 5B and 6B in view of the next relocation convoys. WASH partners are ensuring new roofs and doors with internal locks on all latrines and showers in villages 2, 4, 5 and 6 of Zone B. The existing facilities in the other 6 villages where refugees have been relocated since 8 August present some gaps in particular in the reinforcement of the shower infiltration tanks. In addition, more sanitation infrastructures are being installed in Zone B villages (8 latrines, 8 showers and 4 garbage pits).

- **Water distribution:** Road transport and water distribution continues with the distribution of an average of 24 litres per person per day in Lóvua and an average of 20 litres per person per day in Cacanda. Water quality control is ongoing with 05, mg/l for both Lóvua and Cacanda.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Cacanda water drainage requires urgent attention and technical review. These activities will be led by the WASH contingency workforce comprised by multi-sectorial partners (WASH, shelter and health) and other agencies.
- In Lóvua settlement, the access (secondary road) inside village 4B has been identified as a key intervention to finalize the WASH facilities and to ensure that the water trucks are able to supply its water point. In addition, village 2B needs opening of a secondary road to allow access to the water truck.



SHELTER AND NFIS

Achievements and Impact

- A total of 156 individuals received core relief items (CRI) upon relocation to Lóvua, namely blankets, sleeping mats, jerry cans, solar lamps, kitchen sets, as well as 47 tents and 47 shelter/WASH partial kits.
- Nineteen families received assistance to install their tents. A total of 488 tents were distributed since the beginning of the relocation making an average of 3.4 individuals per tent.
- The delivery of 3,000 shelter kits took place in Lóvua. These shelter kits composed of hardware items will serve refugees to improve their dwellings and construct provisional shelters.
- **Site planning:** As of 1 September, a total of 1,650 individuals (512 families), have been relocated to 6 villages, to a total of 432 plots in Lóvua settlement with an average of 3.8 individuals per plot. Villages 1 to 3 of zones A and B are fully populated at an average of 275 individuals per village. Common facilities are set and functional in all villages, namely WASH facilities within emergency standards.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The lack of available heavy machinery continues to delay the opening of primary and secondary roads, a major constraint in the development of Lóvua settlement. Shelter partners are in the process of engaging the services of suitable equipment to expedite road opening.



ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY

- The awareness and information volunteers are preparing door-to-door visits and environmental education activities at the child friendly spaces installed in village 1A in Lóvua settlement.
- A group of refugee workers was trained for tree marking and environmental protection activities.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- As the sixty solar street lights expected to arrive in Angola in mid-September will not cover the community lighting needs for the Lóvua settlement, partners are exploring ways of ensuring additional street lights.
- There is need for the improvement of solid waste management in Lóvua settlement, transiting from emergency refuse pits to a controlled and safe waste collection and waste disposal mechanism. Discussions are ongoing with Lóvua administration for identification of a waste disposal site.

Working in partnership

- Humanitarian and development partners, working on the ground and in the country on various projects, are actively supporting the Government of Angola to ensure adequate and effective response to the needs of the Congolese refugees. A weekly inter-agency coordination meeting is held in Luanda. In Dundo, weekly inter-agency meetings ensure a comprehensive and integrated operational response to the refugee situation. Sectoral working group coordination meetings on Protection, WASH, Health/Nutrition and Communication with Communities are also organized weekly in Dundo.

Partners in the response:

- Angolan Red Cross Society
- CARITAS
- CICAJ - Centro de Investigação Científica e Assessoria Jurídica
- FAO - Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
- IOM - International Organization for Migration
- JRS - Jesuit Refugee Service
- LWF - Lutheran World Federation
- MAG - Mine Advisory Group
- MdM - Médecins du Monde
- MSF - Médecins Sans Frontières
- NCA – Norwegian Church Aid
- PIN - People in Need
- UNAIDS - The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
- UNDP - United Nations Development Programme
- UNDSS - United Nations Department for Safety and Security
- UNFPA - United Nations Population Fund
- UNHCR - United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- UNICEF - United Nations' Children's Fund
- UNRCO - United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office
- WFP - World Food Programme
- WHO - World Health Organization
- WVI - World Vision International

The [Angola Inter-Agency Refugee Appeal \(April – December 2017\)](#) is available on the [Angola Operational Data Portal](#). Agencies are very grateful for the financial support provided by donors who have contributed to their activities with un-earmarked and broadly earmarked funds, as well as for those who have contributed directly to the operations in Angola.

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Financial requirements by agency:

Organization	Total (USD)
FAO Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	1,030,000
IOM International Organization for Migration	1,869,438
JRS Jesuit Refugee Service	1,574,790
MAG Mine Advisory Group	585,000
UNAIDS The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS	400,000
UNDP United Nations Development Programme	2,550,000
UNDSS United Nations Department for Safety and Security	830,000
UNFPA United Nations Population Fund	1,367,414
UNHCR United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	36,705,352
UNICEF United Nations' Children's Fund	8,499,703
UNRCO United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office	100,000
WFP World Food Programme	9,100,000
WHO World Health Organization	895,913
Total	65,507,610

CONTACTS

Markku Aikomus, Senior Regional External Relations Officer
aikomus@unhcr.org, Tel: +27 81 797 7456

Margarida Loureiro, External Relations/Reporting Officer
loureiro@unhcr.org, Tel: +224 945 416 383

Rui Padilha, Associate Information Management Officer
padilha@unhcr.org, Tel: +224 949 097 329

LINKS

[Angola Operational Data Portal](#)