

Angola

07 March 2018

Fifty-two registered Congolese refugees living in Dundo and **480 unregistered Congolese refugees** staying at Cacanda Reception Centre were forcibly returned to the DRC in February.

Should conditions improve, UNHCR stands ready to work with the authorities in DRC and Angola in the **voluntary repatriation** of refugees from Lunda Norte Province to the DRC.

A football tournament with 110 adolescent girls in Lóvuá raised attention towards sexual and reproductive health and prevention of sexual and gender-based violence.

KEY FIGURES

75%

of Congolese refugees from Kasai in Angola are women and children

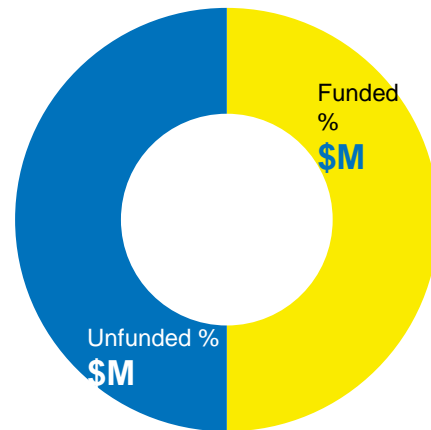
35,411

Biometrically registered Congolese refugees in Lunda Norte Province. Total of **24,742 refugees** currently have active status to receive food assistance.

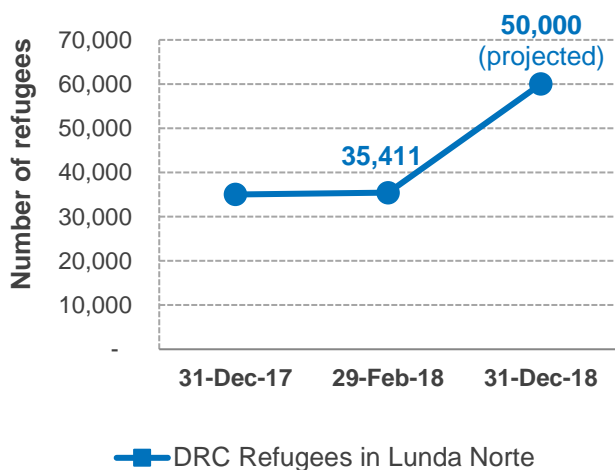
50,000

Inter-agency planning figure for Congolese refugees by the end of the year.

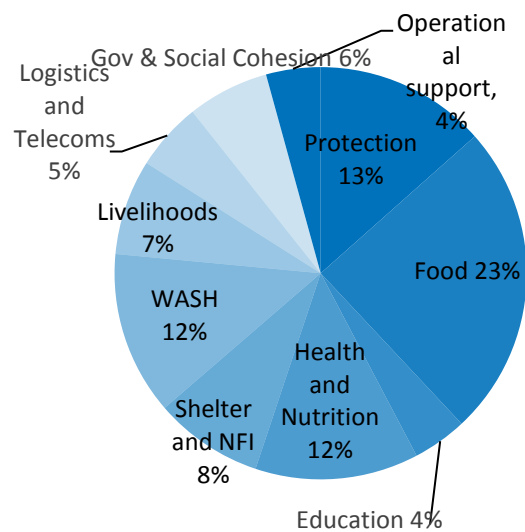
USD 63,881,333 (provisional funding needs in 2018)

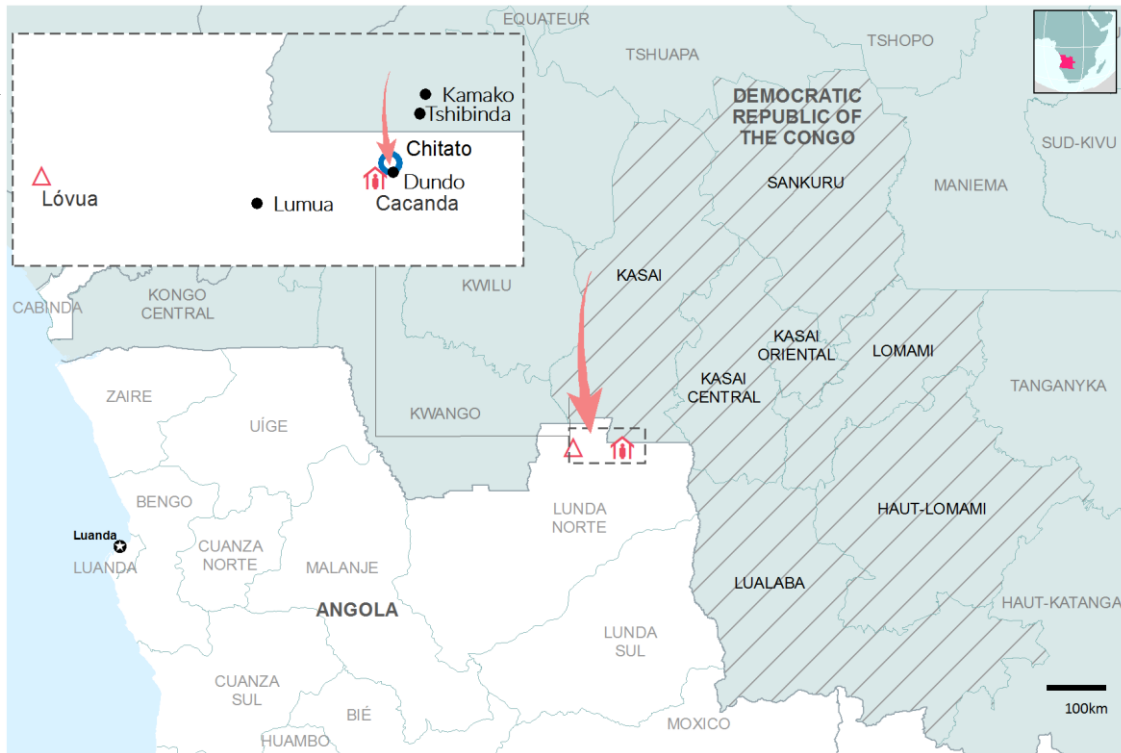


POPULATION TRENDS



FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS





The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
 Create date: 22 Jan 2018 Sources: UNHCRS, UNCS, Angolan Government

Areas affected by outbreak of violence since August 2016
 Refugee settlement
 Reception centre
 Congolese refugees

Operational Context

The outbreak of violence in the Kasai region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) in March 2017 triggered the internal displacement of some 1.4 million persons and the flight of over 35,000 refugees into Lunda Norte Province, Angola. The Emergency Relief Coordinator declared an Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) System-Wide L3 Emergency Response for DRC focusing on the Kasai region, Tanganyika and South Kivu provinces on 20 October for a period of six months.

Despite the Government of Angola’s (GoA) open door policy to welcome Congolese nationals fleeing as a result of the conflict, new arrivals have significantly decreased since July 2017. The operation continues to register additional arrivals under family reunification.

As the situation remains volatile in the Kasai region with rising numbers of internally displaced people, humanitarian agencies in Angola maintain the 2017 response planning figure of 50,000 refugees until end of December 2018. UNHCR is not currently facilitating voluntary repatriation of Congolese refugees from Lunda Norte Province to their country of origin.

The interagency humanitarian response for the Congolese refugees covers the areas of protection, emergency shelter, livelihoods, food security and nutrition, non-food items, water, sanitation, hygiene, health including mental health, and education until the end of 2018.

Refugees registered in Mussungue and Cacanda reception centres have been successfully relocated to the new settlement in Lóvuá; the relocation of those living with host communities in Dundo is scheduled to be completed by end of March 2018. Currently, 13,617 Congolese refugees (3,409 families) are residing in Lóvuá settlement.

Achievements



PROTECTION

Achievements and Impact

- **Refoulement:** Between 25 and 27 February, some 532 Congolese refugees in Angola were returned to Kasai in the Democratic Republic of Congo, 52 of whom were biometrically registered and 480 were in the process of having their status verified. The incident occurred following the conclusion of relocation of Congolese refugees from Cacanda Reception Centre to Lóvua Settlement on 25 February. There were 217 children among the unregistered refugees. The exact number of *refouled* refugees is unknown. So far, 52 cases have been reported.
- Police Special Forces did a round-up across Dundo arresting refugees and confiscating their registration documents. Approximately 25 refugees fled to the offices of humanitarian partners fearing deportation. About 60 refugees were interviewed by the UN and partners to collect information on police deportations.
- Since these events, the UN has not been granted access to the Chissanda border nor to the Immigration detention centre of Conduije. Partners continue protection monitoring in Conduije screening centre and different police stations. No further arrests have been reported since 28 February.
- **Registration:** Out of the 35,411 individuals biometrically registered, 24,742 individuals (6,238 families) were present at food distribution and received monthly food rations.
- **Relocation:** Five successful relocations of 37 convoys comprising 1,953 individuals (514 HH) arrived in Lóvua from Cacanda reception centre.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- **Repatriation:** From 10 - 12 February, Congolese and Angolan authorities visited Lóvua to discuss repatriation with refugee leaders. The meeting took place outside of the settlement and the refugee community was not invited to participate. As a result, tensions arose in the settlement and some refugees threatened their local refugee leaders.
- Following the visit of the DRC delegation, the bi-monthly meeting with the refugee leaders was cancelled due to security concerns. The ongoing tensions between refugee community and some of its leaders took a toll on the recently elected leadership. The community has recalled its leaders that their tasks exclude all political activities.



Last convoy from Cacanda reception centre to Lóvuá settlement in February. © UNHCR / O.Akindipe



FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

Achievements and Impact

- **Food security:** The UN partners continue enhancing food security synergies aimed at ramping up monitoring and evaluation screening, targeting and feeding the refugee population, with particular attention to those in need of nutritional supplementary assistance.
- **Nutrition:** A total of 220 children (6 to 59 months) were screened for malnutrition in Lóvuá resulting in one case of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and 10 with Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM).
- **General Food Distribution (GFD):** General and nutritional food rations were supplied to all refugees in Dundo and Lóvuá. However, due to the closure process of Cacanda reception centre on 25 February, the government has committed to identify an alternative food distribution site for March onwards until all refugees from urban areas are relocated to Lóvuá settlement.



HEALTH

Achievements and Impact

- **Primary health care and medical consultations:** In **Cacanda**, the main cause of morbidity was malaria (32 per cent), followed by upper respiratory tract infections (20 per cent) and parasitic

infection (12 per cent). In **Lóvua**, the main morbidity was linked to musculoskeletal pain (28 per cent), followed by upper respiratory tract infections (15 per cent) and parasites (13 per cent).

- **Sexual & reproductive health:** Antenatal (ANC) and postnatal care (PNC) services continue. In Cacanda, 23 women received ANC consultations; 15 received first consultations and all were screened for HIV/AIDS. Nine women attended PNC consultation and eight received dignity kits. In Lóvua, 58 women received ANC consultations; 31 received first consultations and were screened for HIV/AIDS. There are a total of 202 pregnant women.
- Total of 1,058 women and girls received dignity kits during February.
- In Lóvua settlement, preparations are ongoing to set up two more women-friendly tents to meet the increasing needs as the settlement is expanding.
- A football tournament was organised with 110 adolescent girls in Lóvua to raise attention towards sexual and reproductive health and prevention of sexual and gender-based violence. There was a sensitization campaign during the tournament.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- **Reproductive Health:** There is a need to strengthen delivery services in Lóvua settlement. Many pregnant women are not going to the clinic or arrive too late for delivery putting themselves and their babies at risk. In addition, refugees express concern at being brought to hospitals in Dundo for delivery due to the distance.



SHELTER & SITE PLANNING

Achievements and Impact

- **Site planning:** Total of 41 villages are now complete in Lóvua settlement out of a planned 53 villages.
- **Solar lamps:** Total of 410 solar street lamps are ready to be installed in Lóvua settlement by a partner.
- **Shelter:** Total of 819 emergency shelters were built out of the 3,134 shelters erected in Lóvua.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- **Shelter:** The newly arrived tents have waterproofing issues. The inventory management team has been informed of the situation and plastic sheets are being provided to refugees to cover the tents.

Working in partnership

- Humanitarian and development partners, working in the country, 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. Sectorial working group coordination meetings are also organized weekly in Dundo.
- The Deputy Representative of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in Angola visited Lóvua accompanied by the UN partners. JICA has donated 50 solar units with three solar lamps to the refugee response. Seventeen units were distributed during the visit, including to Lóvua municipality clinic, the police post in Lóvua settlement and to refugee focal points in the settlement.

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 - Médicos del Mundo
- 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.

[Special thanks to the Central Emergency Response Fund](#) for their contributions to the 2017 inter-agency refugee response in Angola.

[Special thanks to China, Denmark, Germany, Italy, Portugal, the United States of America and private donors in Italy and in the United States of America](#) for their contributions to UNHCR's operations in Angola in 2017.

[Special thanks to France and to the United States of America](#) for their contribution to WFP's operation in Angola in 2017.

Financial requirements by agency: Inter-Agency Refugee Appeal in process.

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LINKS

[Angola Operational Data Portal](#)