

Angola

Main objectives

UNHCR's initial objectives for 2002 were to ensure the local integration of Congolese refugees and provide basic assistance to IDPs. In view of the political developments favouring the return of Angolan refugees from neighbouring countries. The objectives were revised as follows: to provide emergency assistance to the returnees; find durable solutions for the refugee population in Angola through local settlement, voluntary repatriation and, when appropriate, resettlement to third countries; facilitate the establishment of sustainable IDP protection mechanisms by the Government, civil society and humanitarian actors, within the framework of the co-ordinated UN intervention; and facilitate sustainable reintegration of the Angolan returnee population, ensuring adequate protection and assistance.

Impact

- Assistance was provided to refugees (health care, education, water delivery, and agricultural production). Mortality and morbidity rates were lower among the assisted population than the local population.
- IDPs assisted by UNHCR received similar health care, education and potable water delivery services. Owing to limited resources for the IDP programme, only the IDPs in the locations of Viana and Uige could be assisted.
- Basic assistance, in the form of food and non-food items, was delivered to most of the returnees. In an effort to create conditions conducive to a sustainable return, basic infrastructure was improved in the main provinces of Kuando Kubango, Moxico, Uige and Zaire. This involved a few clinics, school buildings and potable water delivery systems, rehabilitated towards the end of 2002.



Working environment

The context

The Luena Peace Agreement signed on 4 April 2002 between the Government of Angola and the *União Nacional para a Independência Total de Angola* (UNITA) paved the way for peace and national reconciliation. UNITA combatants were demobilised, and some 1.3 million IDPs had returned to their places of origin by the end of the year. In order to consolidate the peace process, the Government unveiled a peace plan in March 2002 recognising the constitution and State institutions and confirming the validity of the existing Bicesse (1991) and Lusaka (1994) peace accords.

In November, the Government took steps to prepare for the voluntary return of 450,000 refugees living in Southern Africa. The Government signed tripartite agreements with Zambia and Namibia, for the return of 210,000 refugees from Zambia and 21,600 from Namibia. In December, the Angolan Government and UNHCR signed agreements with the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), which was hosting 193,000 Angolan refugees, and the Republic of the Congo (ROC) hosting 16,000 refugees. The organised repatriation of these people is expected to begin in May/June 2003.

At the same time, the Government faced the major task of reintegrating over 85,000 demobilised former UNITA soldiers and their 350,000 dependants. The country needs substantial support from the international community if its newly won peace is to be sustained, and if conflict is to be prevented in the future.

During 2002, the IDP assistance programme was revised to take account of the large numbers of spontaneous returnees arriving in Kuando Kubango, Moxico, Uige and Zaire provinces from the DRC and Zambia. Given this sudden turn of events, UNHCR immediately engaged in the planning of a voluntary repatriation operation targeting more than 400,000 refugees in neighbouring Zambia, DRC, Namibia and ROC. UNHCR established a sub-office in M'Banza

Congo (Zaire province), overseeing field offices in Maquela Do Zombo and Uige; and a sub-office in Luena (Moxico province), overseeing field offices in Cazombo, Luau, Lumbala N'Gimbo and Menongue.

Constraints

The arrival of spontaneous returnees stretched to the limit the resources available for the Angola programme. Over 80,000 Angolan refugees spontaneously repatriated, but poor road conditions, the presence of landmines and lack of vehicle maintenance were major logistical obstacles. Although the Government remained committed to clearing roads and bridges of landmines and rehabilitating them as necessary, its main priority was the peaceful reintegration of all demobilised soldiers into civil society. UNHCR had difficulty gaining access to returnees in Moxico and Kuando Kubango provinces, in order to provide assistance, until a presence was established there at the end of the year.

The initial absence of humanitarian agencies and NGOs in the returnee areas was a major constraint, which delayed the delivery of assistance to returnees and increased programme costs. UNHCR had limited staff and resources with which to respond to these new needs. The use of temporary additional staff (deployed to Angola for three months at a time),

Persons of Concern				
Main Origin / Type of Population	Total in Country	Of whom UNHCR assisted	Per cent Female	Per cent under 18
IDPs	202,000 ¹	-	-	-
Returnees (from Zambia)	51,300	10,600	-	-
Returnees (from DRC)	32,700	21,600	-	-
DRC (Refugees)	11,900	9,750	53	64
Returnees (from Namibia)	1,080	1,080	-	-
Asylum-seekers	930	930	48	25

¹ This figure includes 13,300 IDPs who returned to their places of origin.

Income and Expenditure (USD)					
	Revised Budget	Income from Contributions ¹	Other Funds Available ²	Total Funds Available	Total Expenditure
AB	6,377,524	1,810,035	4,063,124	5,873,159	5,873,159
SB	3,769,676	2,332,858	133,012	2,465,870	2,418,823
Total	10,147,200	4,142,893	4,196,136	8,339,029	8,291,982

¹ Includes income from contributions restricted at the country level.
² Includes allocations by UNHCR from unearmarked or broadly earmarked contributions, opening balance and adjustments. Figures do not include costs at Headquarters.

did not prove conducive to the smooth planning of the repatriation operation, or emergency assistance to the spontaneous returnees.

Funding

Although the refugee programme was fully funded, resources were not sufficient to meet the requirements of the repatriation operation in 2002. The programme in the northern provinces of Zaire and Uige was financed under the IDP project while the funds released from the UNHCR programme reserve were used to cover the initial repatriation to Moxico province. The rehabilitation of schools, health posts and water-points was initiated and non-food items, seeds and tools were distributed to returnees. With the restoration of peace, more places became accessible to returnees, but the reintegration and reconstruction needs of most of these areas have yet to be tackled.

Achievements and impact

Protection and solutions

The year under review was marked by new perspectives on finding durable solutions for refugees, returnees and IDPs. The Government allocated land for 115 displaced Congolese refugee families who had been living temporarily on a football field in Kifangondo. Some 200 Congolese refugee families integrated in Kautepwe settlement (Moxico province) started cultivating agricultural plots for food and are expected to become self-sufficient by the end of 2004. Some 85,000 Angolan refugees and 1.3 million IDPs returning to their places of origin were registered by local authorities and NGOs, and issued with local identification documents. Training and capacity-building of government agencies and NGOs was started in the later part of 2002, and will continue throughout 2003.

Activities and assistance

Community services: UNHCR provided counselling services to urban refugees in Luanda (an average of 50 persons per day, three days per a week). The refugee community centre run by an international NGO in Luanda also provided counselling services,

health care, vocational training and income-generating activities. Refugee Day was commemorated in Viana, Kifangondo and Luanda with the active participation of refugees, and was attended by government officials, UN agencies, UNHCR and its implementing partners. Under the PIC-PEC programme – a programme for children's education and community education for refugee women – literacy classes, HIV/AIDS awareness and health education classes were conducted. An average of 120 children under the age of five in Viana, and 33 in Kifangondo attended day care. Some 80 refugee women acquired handicraft skills.

Crop production: The refugees settled in Kautepwe in Luena (Moxico province), planted food crops in the farmland allocated by the Government and are expected to reach self-sufficiency by the end of 2004. The spontaneous returnees were included as beneficiaries in the seeds and tools distribution campaign organised by humanitarian agencies to assist the IDPs returning to their places of origin.

Domestic needs/household support: Non-food items, including blankets, plastic sheeting, kitchen sets, mats and soap were distributed to the refugees in Viana and Kifangondo (Bengo province) and Kautepwe (Moxico province). Similarly, 75,000 spontaneous returnees in Zaire, Uige and Moxico provinces received (slightly delayed) non-food items which were transported by WFP air cargo.

Education: Over 700 refugee children were enrolled at the primary school in Viana and 28 joined a state secondary school. The PIC-PEC programme enabled 120 children in Viana and 33 in Kifangondo to be enrolled at primary school. Another 52 refugee children were enrolled at the Kifangondo state school located close to the site. An NGO rehabilitated 30 classrooms in M'Banza Congo and Maquela Do Zombo and some schools were provided with desks and school furniture. In Cazombo and Lumbala N'Guimbo, two primary schools were rehabilitated and three rehabilitated primary schools were handed over to the municipal administration of Cazombo.

Fisheries: Six refugee families and two families from the local community were assisted in the purchase of fishing boats.

Food: Food was regularly provided to some 6,500 refugees living in Viana and Kifangondo refugee sites by the WFP. The spontaneous returnees also received food upon production of voluntary repatriation forms and/or ration cards.

Forestry: Support was provided to Congolese refugees by providing seeds for planting in the new refugee settlements in Kautepwe in Luena, Moxico province.

Health/nutrition: The health post in Viana provided the following health services to almost 7,000 refugees and 13,000 IDPs during 2002: basic diagnosis and treatment (and a referral system) covering general medicine, paediatric care, reproductive health care and tuberculosis treatment as well as laboratory services, a pharmacy, community health education and vaccinations. Malaria, respiratory infections and parasitic intestinal infections were the most common ailments reported there. In Kifangondo, similar health services are provided to the 545 refugees temporarily accommodated at the camp.

Under the IDP programme, health services were provided to IDPs and spontaneous returnees at the Uige, Maquela Do Zombo, Cuimba, and Lovu health centres and the Kiowa reception centre at M'Banza Congo. Some 22,500 patients were treated. The primary causes of illness were malaria (23.3 per cent), diarrhoea (14.7 per cent) and respiratory infection (7.2 per cent). An HIV/AIDS awareness campaign was also carried out.

Traditional birth attendants improved the capacity of government health clinics and the local community. The number of deaths during childbirth in Angola (1,845 per 100,000) – one of the highest in the world – was reduced to 586 per 100,000. An international NGO trained 200 traditional birth attendants and medical supplies were provided. More than 148,000 vaccines were distributed and nearly

7,500 births were attended. About 83 per cent of children were vaccinated against measles (including 38 per cent of babies at twelve months). All children were inoculated against BCG and 88 per cent against polio. Nearly 50 per cent of pregnant women were vaccinated against tetanus. Workshops on family planning and medical consultation for the population at risk of HIV/AIDS were organised.

The delivery of health services in the three main municipalities of return was significantly improved. In Moxico province, health services were provided in Luau, Cazombo and Lumbala N'Guimbo. Municipal hospitals in Luau and Cazombo were partially rehabilitated and the health centre in Lumbala N'Guimbo was fully rehabilitated.

An NGO provided training on how to tackle sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). Some 2,000 cases of SGBV were recorded; these incidents resulted in 41 deaths and a larger number of injuries. A total of 102 complaints were filed, with a view to prosecuting the offenders.

Income generation: A national NGO implemented income generation and micro credit schemes, assisting 232 women refugees in Viana and Kifangondo. The refugees were able to make regular interest payments on the loans and, increasingly, capital



When Angola's protracted civil war was over, thousands of returnees started preparing to return home. UNHCR / C. Neveu

repayments. Another 16 urban refugee women were engaged in income-generating activities supported by a different NGO.

Legal assistance: The Inter-Ministerial Government Commission for Refugee Issues in Angola (COREDA) reviewed 152 cases, of which 121 were rejected, nine were accepted and 22 were pending. UNHCR and the agency discussed ways to reduce the delay in status determination. Eleven refugees were resettled. The issuance of identity cards to IDPs and returnees had to be put on hold as the Government still had no presence in many relevant areas. However, an international NGO issued identity cards, commonly known as *Cedula* providing protection to the bearer. A total of 43,515 children were registered by the civil registration office in M'Banza Congo and Viana.

Operational support (to agencies): UNHCR invited three NGOs to work in the Cazombo, Luau and Lumbala N'Guimbo municipalities as there were no humanitarian agencies or NGOs in these areas, to which spontaneous returnees were heading. The NGOs' installation costs were covered under the emergency project.

Sanitation: Some 180 family latrines were built in the Viana settlement, and 12 were constructed in the Kifangondo temporary site. Pit latrines alongside houses were built in Kituma, Negage and Irmaos Coragem. Training was provided on sanitation and maintaining a clean environment, as aspects of community health education.

Shelter/other infrastructure: In Viana, refugee houses were reorganised and some were reconstructed in order to minimise congestion. The refugees in Kautepwe settlement site constructed 70 houses, along with family pit latrines. In Kifangondo, refugees received poles, mats and plastic sheeting to repair their houses. Reception centres were opened in Luau and M'Banza Congo and temporary reception centres are under construction in Cazombo and Lumbala N'Gimbo. The reception centre in Maquela Do Zombo used during the last repatriation operation in 1998, and another one established in Menongue for IDPs, will also be used for the repatriation operation.

Transport/logistics: Implementing partners used UNHCR vehicles but most were old and in need of

replacement. UNHCR gave light vehicles and trucks to international NGOs to be used in Moxico province for the repatriation programme. Due to a shortage of vehicles, implementing partners in the returnee areas to the north of the country did not receive any vehicles, and this drastically reduced their efficiency.

Water: Refugees received an adequate water supply of 15 litres per person per day. In Kifangondo, water was trucked to the camp regularly. In Viana, three water points were the source of potable water for the refugees. Some 26 water points in Uige town and six in Maquela Do Zombo were completed and handed over to the population and local authorities. The water points were managed by the local water management committees. Under the repatriation project in Moxico province, two water points in Luau, three in Cazombo and three in Lumbala N'Guimbo were constructed for the use of returnees and the resident population.

Organisation and implementation

Management

In line with the evolving situation in Angola and in preparation for the repatriation operation, the administrative needs of both refugee and returnee programmes were revised. UNHCR established its presence in Moxico province in the east and Uige and Zaire provinces in the north. A sub-office in Luena and field offices in Luau, Lumbala Ngimbo, and Cazombo were opened. Another field office in Menongue (Kuando Kubango province) was opened for refugees coming from Namibia and a sub-office in Mbanza Congo and field offices in Uige and Maquela Do Zombo, were also opened. The office in Angola had a total of five international and 21 national staff, one JPO and 11 UNVs during 2002. In addition, several staff undertook temporary missions of more than two months to assist the implementation of operations pending the appointment of other staff to newly created posts.

Working with others

UNHCR regularly attended the United Nations Country Team meetings and participated in the CAP along with other UN agencies and NGOs.

UNHCR began assuming a major co-ordination role in the main areas of return, and continued to monitor the reintegration of former refugees in the country. With the launching of the organised voluntary repatriation operation, scheduled to start in June 2003, UNHCR will strengthen its working arrangements with WFP, UNICEF, UNDP, FAO and WHO.

In 2002, UNHCR worked with a government counterpart, one national and six international NGOs. Seven other NGOs were engaged to implement the IDP programme. The same government agency and NGOs have broadened the scope of their activities to assist returnees as well. In addition, two new international NGOs were engaged to implement the repatriation programme.

Overall assessment

The refugee assistance programme was implemented as planned. The Government allocated land in Bengo Province for refugees who were temporarily settled in Kifangondo. Similarly, the settlement of Congolese refugees in Kautepwe in Luena (Moxico province), showed encouraging results, with steadily increasing levels of self-sufficiency in food production.

Notwithstanding the initial limitations faced by UNHCR in establishing a presence and operations in several locations throughout the country, it is expected that most, if not all, the staff, equipment, vehicles and office structures will be in place before the onset of the organised voluntary repatriation movements from neighbouring countries. However, innumerable schools, clinics, water delivery systems, roads and bridges still have to be rehabilitated – or built from the ground up – over the next two years.

The IDP programme was smoothly implemented and was beneficial to the spontaneous returnees. Since this project was approved during 2002, no new staff could be made available, and it became an additional burden on an already understaffed office. The repatriation project was implemented at the same time that the spontaneous returnees were arriving. Some of the returnees arrived in remote parts of the country, often inaccessible to UNHCR. The Office had to engage in new partnerships with

NGOs to work in the three municipalities in Moxico province (Cazombo, Luau and Lumbala N'Guimbo), since there were no humanitarian agencies working in those areas. This led to additional installation costs.

The exit strategy for the IDP programme was implemented, and responsibility for the project activities and the rehabilitation of infrastructure was handed over to the Government and the local resident committees. The arrival of spontaneous returnees to Zaire and Uige provinces, however, resulted in a revision of the IDP programme to address the needs of the returnees.

Offices

Luanda
Cazombo
Luau
Luena
Lumbala N'Guimbo
Maquela do Zombo
M'Banza Congo
Menongue
Uige

Partners

Government Agencies
Inter-Ministerial Government Commission for Refugee Issues in Angola
Ministry of Reintegration and Social Affairs
NGOs
Africa Humanitarian Action
Asian Medical Doctors Association
Center for Common Ground
Consortium of Voluntary Agencies
<i>Fraternidade Para Infancia Solidariada Humanismo</i>
IBIS
International Medical Corps
INTERSOS
Lutheran World Federation
MEDAIR
Norwegian Refugee Council
Save the Children, Norway

Financial Report (USD)

Expenditure Breakdown	Current Year's Projects			Prior Years' Projects		
	Annual Programme Budget	Supplementary Programme Budget	Total	notes	Annual Programme Budget	notes
Protection, Monitoring and Co-ordination	543,456	519,843	1,063,299		1,575	
Community Services	136,510	0	136,510		34,571	
Crop Production	1,288	22,392	23,680		9,828	
Domestic Needs/Household Support	55,440	102,421	157,861		1,600	
Education	34,691	34,429	69,120		29,504	
Fisheries	7,637	0	7,637		(642)	
Food	27,306	0	27,306		600	
Forestry	7,740	0			0	
Health/Nutrition	243,055	89,574	332,629		173,757	
Income Generation	73,283	0	73,283		11,754	
Legal Assistance	387,102	77,160	464,262		113,439	
Operational Support (to Agencies)	190,750	30,426	221,176		215,784	
Sanitation	615	0	615		25,989	
Shelter/Other Infrastructure	129,434	11,966	141,400		70,729	
Transport/Logistics	291,761	125,089	416,850		155,478	
Water	30,449	22,443	52,892		84,653	
Transit Account	17,181	0	17,181		(40,041)	
Instalments with Implementing Partners	1,453,539	307,388	1,760,927		(804,215)	
Sub-total Operational	3,631,236	1,343,132	4,974,368		84,362	
Programme Support	1,655,319	159,342	1,814,661		13,165	
Sub-total Disbursements/Deliveries	5,286,555	1,502,474	6,789,029	(3)	97,527	(5)
Unliquidated Obligations	586,604	916,349	1,502,953	(3)	0	(5)
Total	5,873,159	2,418,823	8,291,982	(1) (3)	97,527	
Instalments with Implementing Partners						
Payments Made	2,427,657	544,512	2,972,169		23,289	
Reporting Received	974,118	237,124	1,211,242		827,504	
Balance	1,453,539	307,388	1,760,927		(804,215)	
Outstanding 1st January	0	0	0		1,122,911	
Refunded to UNHCR	0	0	0		318,697	
Currency Adjustment	0	0	0		0	
Outstanding 31 December	1,453,539	307,388	1,760,927		0	
Unliquidated Obligations						
Outstanding 1st January	0	0	0		376,155	(5)
New Obligations	5,873,159	2,418,823	8,291,982	(1)	0	
Disbursements	5,286,555	1,502,474	6,789,029	(3)	97,527	(5)
Cancellations		0	0		278,628	(5)
Outstanding 31 December	586,604	916,349	1,502,953	(3)	0	(5)
Figures which cross-reference to Accounts:						
(1) Annex to Statement 1						
(3) Schedule 3						
(5) Schedule 5						