

Zambia

August 2020

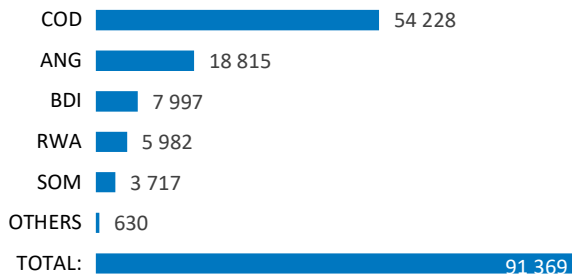
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PEOPLE OF CONCERN AS OF 31 AUGUST 2020 (91,369)

Countries of Origin

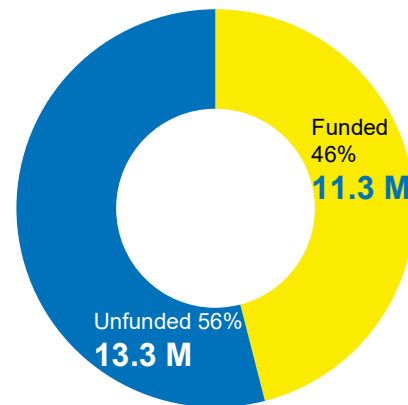


* Other Nationalities include Congo Brazzaville, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Liberia, Namibia, Nigeria, State of Palestine, Sierra Leone, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine and Zimbabwe.

FUNDING (AS OF 25 AUGUST 2020)

USD 24.6 M

UNHCR's 2020 requirements for the Zambia operation:



UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff:

- 56 National Staff
- 15 International Staff
- 28 Affiliate

Offices:

- 1 Representation Office in Lusaka
- 2 Field Offices in Solwezi and Kawambwa
- 1 Field Unit in Kaoma



UNHCR and partner staff at a Community Help Desk in Meheba Refugee Settlement ©UNHCR/Solwezi Field Office

Working with Partners

- UNHCR works closely with the Zambian Government within the Framework of the 7th National Development Plan, participating in relevant structures such as the National Development Coordination Committee, Clusters and Technical Working Groups at central level and in District Development Coordinating Committees and other relevant sectoral groups at district level in refugee-hosting districts.
- UNHCR also works with the Office of the Commissioner for Refugees (COR), its counterpart in the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), and other key government line ministries including Ministries of General and Higher Education, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Community Development and Social Services, and Ministry of Health, among others, on thematic issues and in pursuit of refugee inclusion.
- Further, UNHCR collaborates with other UN agencies within the Delivering as One Framework under the Zambia-United Nations Sustainable Development Partnership Framework, participating in relevant results groups and thematic groups.
- The operation also has partnerships with international NGOs, such as Action Africa Help, Plan International, Caritas Czech Republic, CARE International and World Vision Zambia, with whom it collaborates in delivering various interventions.
- The Operation is increasingly engaging and building partnerships with development organisations and co-operating partners with the view to ensuring their development programmes include refugees, in line with the inclusion agenda.
- UNHCR is also building partnerships with the private sector aimed at ensuring refugee inclusion in strategic value chains, financial inclusion and improving livelihoods and self-reliance.
- Within the context of the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework, the operation has heightened its engagement with various partners.

Main Activities

Protection

- UNHCR's protection priorities in 2020 include supporting the Government of the Republic of Zambia (GRZ), through COR with registration of asylum-seekers and conducting Refugee Status Determination (RSD) interviews. To this end, UNHCR procured 10 laptops that enabled legal advisors to conduct outdoor interviews to enable social distancing and adhere to COVID-19 prevention measures. Between 1 January and 31 August 2020, Zambia has received 3,594 new arrivals, with the majority from the DRC, Burundi and Somalia, while rest are from other countries.
- UNHCR is providing technical and legal expertise in to support drafting of the National Refugee Policy.
- With regards to Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV), UNHCR in collaboration with Government and partners, has developed referral service pathways in Lusaka and Mantapala refugee settlement. Additionally, staff across all refugee settlements have been trained in awareness-raising, including on COVID-19, to enable continuity of identifying and monitoring cases of SGBV and COVID-19. SGBV and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) message cards in various languages have been distributed in Meheba and Mayukwayukwa settlements in order to amplify information dissemination. A Zero Tolerance Village Alliance SGBV Model – which is a community-based protection model with emphasis on communities taking the lead in SGBV prevention and claiming their rights – has been rolled out in the settlements.
- Detention monitoring is another key activity, with weekly follow-up to identify PoCs in detention centres. So far, a few incarcerated immigrants were found with cases worth RSD consideration in the northern regions of Zambia and were referred to COR for status determination.
- Under Child Protection, UNHCR is implementing ISIBINDI, a Child Protection community-based model in all the refugee settlements. Also promoting gender equality is a reality across the refugee committees in the settlements, with 50 per cent representation of women.

Education

- The government, through the Ministry of General Education (MoGE), manages schools in the three refugee settlements. MoGE has integrated the settlement schools into the national education systems and deployed teachers to the schools who are on Government payroll. In addition, MoGE is focused on building the capacity of and mentoring volunteer refugee teachers. The key priorities for education in 2020 include: improving education infrastructure, materials and services; expanding refugee access to secondary and tertiary education including skills development and support teacher development and capacity building;

establishing a robust and comprehensive data base on refugee education that is integrated with the national system; and to build and strengthen partnerships in Zambia's education sector.

- In the three settlements combined, there were 1,490 pupils enrolled in Early Childhood Education (ECE), 9,715 in primary and 4,631 in secondary. Lusaka has 1,512 pupils in primary and 1,024 students in secondary. 46 students are in tertiary education in various institutions under the DAFI sponsorship. With the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic, UNHCR is also focusing on enhancing the capacity of schools in refugee settlements to provide catch-up and remote learning while improving their ability to adhere to COVID-19 safety measures articulated by the Ministries of Health and Education.

Health

- In line with Zambia's National Health Strategic Plan (2017 – 2021), UNHCR aims to ensure that all refugees and other PoCs in Zambia can access life-saving and essential health care; HIV/AIDS prevention, protection and treatment; reproductive health services; food security and nutrition; and water, sanitation and hygiene services.
- UNHCR's Public Health objectives currently centre around two broad areas, namely COVID-19 pandemic response, and continuity of essential health services.
 - Regarding COVID-19, UNHCR and partners are working to support over 91,000 PoCs to help prevent and stop the spread of the virus. Measures already under way include the procurement of medical supplies and personal protective equipment (PPEs), establishing shelter and other quarantine arrangements, upgrading water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and health services; emergency shelter and communications with communities.
 - In line with the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR), UNHCR, other UN agencies and international NGOs are supporting the government efforts in availing equitable and quality services to over 91,000 PoCs and their immediate hosts, through 11 health facilities in proximity to the 3 refugee settlements. UNHCR's focus is to maintain access to primary health care, immunization, sexual and reproductive health, HIV, tuberculosis, mental health, acute malnutrition, infant and young child feeding services.

Food Security and Nutrition

- WFP rolled out its cash-based transfer (CBT) programme in May 2020 targeting 1,518 refugees (316 households) out of the planned 10,000 refugees in Mantapala settlement. In July, 5,025 refugees were added to the list bringing the total to 6,543. The rest of the refugees in Mantapala settlement are receiving direct food support.
- Eligible refugees, such as new arrivals and some vulnerable refugees in the two older settlements (Meheba and Mayukwayukwa) are receiving UNHCR cash-based-intervention (CBI).

Water and Sanitation

- UNHCR continues to mobilise agencies to assist the Government to provide adequate water, sanitation and hygiene services to refugees in the three settlements as well as nearby host communities. 51 boreholes and 400 household latrines have been constructed in 2020 with support from the European Union and KfW, through UNICEF, as well as the support from New Apostolic Church Relief Organisation (NACRO), specifically in Mantapala. The two older settlements of Meheba and Mayukwayukwa, with a mix of protracted and new people of concern, also have several water points and sanitation facilities including latrines. In Mantapala settlement, an individual is receiving an average of 31 litres of water per day - above the minimum standard of 20 litres. To ensure UNHCR prescribed standard water ratio minimum supply threshold per individual, the German Government's KfW Bank, through UNICEF has further extended the drilling of boreholes to Meheba, Mayukwayukwa and Lusaka.

Shelter and NFIs

- To improve the shelter situation for people of concern, UNHCR has distributed and installed Refugee Housing Units to the field, with Mayukwayukwa refugee settlement receiving 159, and Mantapala settlement 225, directly from Headquarters.
- In all the three settlements, some of the refugees and other partners have constructed semi-permanent shelters, using local materials. In Mantapala, 95 per cent of the total households (4,057) continue to live in emergency shelters, which is not a sustainable situation.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management

- Zambia has since 2018 adopted the mainstreaming approach when dealing with refugee matters. The approach requires that all the line ministries operating in the three refugee settlements and in urban areas providing services to refugees (including Agriculture, Health, Education and Community Development and Social Services, among others), collaborate with COR, as the Government office mandated to coordinate refugee matters under the 2017 Refugee Act and as an umbrella interlocutor for UNHCR. This measure is in line with and reinforces Government's shift from sectoral to multi-sectoral and outcome-based programming as embedded in the 7th National Development Plan. The approach is also in line with the Zambia-United Nations Sustainable Development Partnership Framework, which governs how the United Nations in Zambia aligns with and supports the Zambian Government in delivering development, and aligns with the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework, as embedded in the Global Compact on Refugees.

Access to Energy

- All the three refugee settlements in Zambia remain unconnected to the national grid and are energy poor. The operation is taking steps to scale-up capacity with the view to improving access to energy for people of concern. This includes engaging a deployee to both provide technical advice and help design new projects and proposals to address critical gaps in the sector.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- 49 per cent of the refugee population is within the economically active age group (18 – 59). UNHCR and partners have targeted up to 4,000 beneficiaries directly (16,000 indirectly) with livelihoods support, an increase compared to those supported in 2019. Across all the hosting locations – urban areas and the three refugee settlements – refugees and members of the immediate hosting community are being supported to enhance access to physical, human, social and financial capital through agricultural, financial inclusion (village banking, linkage to formal financial institutions), business training and capital, vocational skills training and apprenticeship support interventions.
- To ensure livelihoods are available to PoCs, UNHCR is partnering and collaborating with key Government line Ministries, UN agencies, operational and implementing partners. Through a market value chain-based approach, UNHCR is also partnering with private sector entities to enhance inclusion of refugees into existing market systems.
- Some of the achievements in 2020 include skills development. 20 youth graduated with certificates following completion of vocational training in several National Trade Training Centres. Through complementary funding by a project partner – CCR – a further 75 refugee and host community youth are continuing with training at various trade schools in the country. With complementary funds CCR is also completing construction works of a technology and design workshop in the Mantapala settlement. The workshop will enable facilitation of short-term practical and marketable skills trainings to the many youths in Mantapala. This complements the Education curriculum aimed at providing technical training pathways.
- Through a partnership with Jewel of Africa, a private company, five youth in Lusaka completed an apprenticeship program, with three further engaged on long-term contract basis. Following the successful pilot programme, a mapping exercise of artisanal skills amongst refugees in Lusaka has been conducted. The mapping sets to identify the pre-existing artisanal skills that would be necessary for the introduction and promotion of the UNHCR MADE 51 model in Zambia.
- UNHCR is facilitating rice value chain development in Meheba through value addition. To this end, a mini rice processing machine has been procured by UNHCR and installed in Meheba settlement. 100 PoC households are currently receiving support.
- Through collaboration with Bee Sweet Honey Limited and Forest Fruit Limited, key processed honey market actors, UNHCR is facilitating development and up-scaling of beekeeping and honey production in Mantapala and Meheba settlements. Through this agro-forestry venture, 300 PoCs will have access to alternative livelihoods and income sources.
- To determine the measurable impact of COVID-19 on the livelihoods of refugees and hosting populations, in June 2020, UNHCR facilitated a multi-stakeholder rapid assessment. The findings show that at least 70 per cent of the population has been negatively affected. 83 per cent of the respondents voiced the need for support to enable them to recover their lost businesses, jobs and engagement in farming. Refugees have requested for financial assistance to meet basic needs, re-start and boost business, and purchase agricultural inputs.
- UNHCR, through partners, supported and engaged at least 125 skilled refugee tailors to produce 65,000 non-medical reusable face masks, distributed to refugees and host community members. A one-off COVID-19 related CBI was distributed to all eligible refugees.

Durable Solutions

- UNHCR Zambia targets to resettle 200 individuals in 2020. Despite the restrictive COVID-19 working environment, 267 vulnerable refugees have been submitted for consideration. So far, 91 refugees have departed, and the remaining cases are pending departure, while 28 individuals who are emergency protection and medical cases may also be attended to. The office has continued to assess and interview refugees in all locations (urban and the two refugee settlements – Mayukwayukwa and Meheba). COVID-19 has posed a major challenge to resettlement as most countries have closed their air spaces, thus negatively impacting on the resettlement departures. Due to the limited resettlement quota allocation to Zambia in 2020, UNHCR is exploring Complementary Pathways for refugees and continues to advocate for increased quota allocation to Zambia in 2021.
- For local integration, the primary focus of COR and UNHCR is supporting the provision of legal documentation for Angolan and Rwandan former refugees as long as funding is made available to support one of the most important pledges made by the GRZ .

Logistics

- UNHCR has periodically transported various core relief items (CRIs) to the field during the year 2020 and supports the Office of COR in the relocation of new arrivals from border reception centres to the three refugee settlements.

External / Donors Relations

- Total recorded contributions for the Zambia operation as of 25 August 2020 amount to **US\$ 11.3 million**.
- The financial requirements for Zambia include requirements for the Burundi Situation, Corona virus Emergency and the DRC Situation.

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to the Zambia operation in 2020 with special thanks to (as of 25 August 2020): USA (2,200,000), Czech Republic (862,441), Unilever (UK) 521,640, Japan (467,927), the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security (107,171), UN Programme on HIV/AIDS (32,100) and to all donors contributing unearmarked and softly earmarked funds to UNHCR's programme.

Special thanks to donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2020 to UNHCR's operations

Germany 71.1 million | United States of America 46.8 million | United Kingdom 24.8 million | Denmark 14.6 million | Canada 10.2 million | Private donors USA 7.4 million | Private donors Australia 7.4 million | Private donors Germany 5.7 million | Private donors Japan 4.2 million | Sweden 4 million | Spain 3.4 million | Ireland 3.3 million | Finland 3.3 million | France 2.8 million | Private donors United Kingdom 2.2 million

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Sweden 76.4 million | Private donors Spain 45.9 million | Norway 41.4 million | Netherlands 36.1 million | Denmark 34.6 million | United Kingdom 31.7 million | Germany 25.9 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 23.9 million | Switzerland 16.4 million | Private donors Japan 15.2 million | France 14 million | Private donors Italy 10.8 million | Italy 10.6 million

CONTACTS

Pierrine Aylara, Representative, aylara@unhcr.org, +260 977862000/1 or +260 977471613

Kelvin Shimoh, Public Information Associate, shimo@unhcr.org, +26097786200/1 or +260979585832

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