

# South Africa Representation Office

April-September 2020

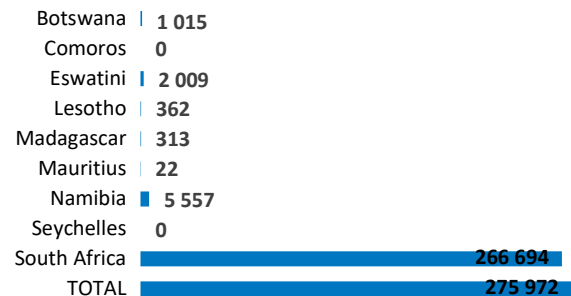
The Representation is a multi-country office, reaching **275,972** people of concern in Botswana, Comoros, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mauritius, Namibia, Seychelles and South Africa.

COVID-19 is impacting the health and livelihoods of refugees alongside citizens. In South Africa alone, **36,800** people received **emergency cash assistance** to help make ends

Regular priorities include: strengthening **national asylum systems**; ending **statelessness**; enhancing the **protection environment**; strengthening **partnerships**.

## PEOPLE OF CONCERN (POC) BY HOST COUNTRY (AS OF 31 JULY)

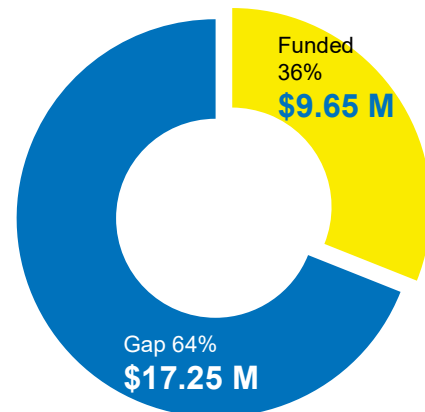
275,972



## FUNDING (AS OF 08 SEPTEMBER)

USD 26.9 M

requested for the South Africa Representation



## UNHCR PRESENCE

- Representation Office in Pretoria, South Africa, covering 9 countries
- 1 Country Office in Gaborone, Botswana
- 2 Field Offices in Cape Town (South Africa) and Dukwi (Botswana)
- 1 Field Unit in Durban, South Africa

## Highlights

- Since 1 April... **36,800** people in urban refugee and host communities in South Africa received emergency cash assistance to buy food and pay rent; **10,000** host community members received face masks from a refugee-run organization in South Africa's Cape Town; **5,500** refugees in Namibia's Osire settlement and **1,000** refugees in Botswana's Dukwi camp benefited from risk communication and upgraded health and sanitation systems, in line with the international guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19; **1,000** refugees and asylum-seekers received legal assistance and counselling.



*A customer wears a face mask while shopping for groceries in Dukwi refugee camp, Botswana. ©UNHCR/Ann Njoki Kamunya*

## Main Activities

- Refugees and host community members continue to be reached with essential information about COVID-19 prevention and response.
- UNHCR provides technical support to the authorities in the nine countries to strengthen national asylum systems, and to work towards eradicating statelessness.
- Under its regular programming, UNHCR provides protection services to refugees and asylum-seekers, including legal assistance, psychosocial counselling, basic assistance, access to tertiary education and livelihoods.
- Under COVID-19 emergency planning, UNHCR and partners are providing multipurpose cash-based assistance and food parcels to members of the refugee and host communities who are struggling to make ends meet, and supporting health care and sanitation services in refugee camps and settlements.

## Durable Solutions

- UNHCR advocates for the local integration of refugees and asylum-seekers wherever possible, and facilitates voluntary repatriation for refugees who wish to return home in safety and dignity. Resettlement is a vital protection tool for a small proportion of highly-vulnerable refugees.

## Working with Partners

- UNHCR works with 21 implementing partners in the seven countries currently sheltering people of concern: Botswana (2), Eswatini (1), Lesotho (1), Madagascar (2), Mauritius (1), Namibia (3), South Africa (11).

## Financial Information

UNHCR is grateful for the support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation, including (as of 8 September 2020) the United States of America (USD 2.7 million), European Union, UN Programme on HIV/AIDS, Botswana, South Africa and private donors.

Thanks to the major donors of softly earmarked contributions that can potentially be used for this operation due to their earmarking to a related situation or theme, or to the region or sub-region. Special thanks to the major donors of unearmarked contributions to UNHCR's global program. Contributed without restrictions on its use, unearmarked funding allows UNHCR critical flexibility on how best to reach refugees and other populations of concern who are in the greatest need and at the greatest risk.

### OTHER SOFTLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Germany 70.6 million | United States of America 46.8 million | United Kingdom 24.8 million | Denmark 14.6 million | Canada 10.2 million | Private donors USA 7.7 million | Private donors Australia 7.4 million | Private donors Germany 4.6 million | Private donors Japan 4.4 million | Spain 3.4 million | Ireland 3.3 million | Finland 3.3 million | Sweden 3 million | France 2.8 million | Private donors United Kingdom 2.3 million

### UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Sweden 76.4 million | Private donors Spain 52.9 million | Norway 41.4 million | Netherlands 36.1 million | Denmark 34.6 million | United Kingdom 31.7 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 27.2 million | Germany 25.9 million | Private donors Japan 17.9 million | Switzerland 16.4 million | France 14 million | Private donors Italy 12.4 million | Italy 10.6 million

#### CONTACTS:

**Leonard Zulu**, Representative, South Africa Representation Office, [zulu@unhcr.org](mailto:zulu@unhcr.org), Tel: +27 12 762 7417

**Kate Pond**, External Relations Officer, South Africa Representation Office, [pondk@unhcr.org](mailto:pondk@unhcr.org), Tel: +27 12 762 7572