CONGOLESE SITUATION
RESPONDING TO THE NEEDS OF DISPLACED CONGOLESE AND REFUGEES

ANNEX - SOUTHERN AFRICA

Supplementary Appeal
January - December 2018
Southern Africa

Map of the area covered by this appeal
Overview

807,000 Congolese refugees expected to be hosted in the region by end 2018
85,000 Congolese refugees expected to be hosted in Southern Africa by end 2018
70% Of Congolese refugees are women and children
159 existing national and international staff
20 offices in the subregion

The Southern Africa annex is part of the supplementary appeal for Congolese situation, which outlines UNHCR’s protection interventions planned in 2018 and its response to the additional and most urgent needs of people of concern fleeing from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

Southern Africa subregion (excluding Angola and Zambia—see Angola and Zambia country annexes for more information) hosts over 75,000 refugees and asylum-seekers from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), mainly in South Africa (33,960), Malawi (19,113), Mozambique (9,822) and Zimbabwe (8,208) but also in Namibia, Botswana, Swaziland, Lesotho, and Madagascar.

Congolese refugees are fleeing to Southern Africa as part of mixed movement flows by crossing several country borders before formally seeking asylum. Many try to reach South Africa for better integration possibilities and to join their families. They are mainly hosted in camps or settlements with the exception of South Africa where they have freedom of movement and the right to work.

The number of Congolese refugees and asylum-seekers is increasing due to the worsening situation in the DRC. UNHCR expects that refugee flows will continue with 10,000 new Congolese refugees in the subregion, bringing the overall Congolese refugee population to 85,000 by the end of December 2018.

UNHCR’s Regional Representation for Southern Africa based in Pretoria provides support to UNHCR operations in the subregion through technical expertise and emergency deployments. Considering that most offices in the region have very limited resources, the ability to provide immediate regional support, oversight and guidance will be important and require additional resources.

Population of concern

75,000 Congolese refugees hosted by end 2017
10,000 new arrivals estimated throughout

Financial requirements

$368.7 million requested for the overall Congolese situation
1% or $3.5 million requested for South Africa regional office
Needs and response

Identified needs

The influx of Congolese refugees in the subregion has constrained the capacity of local authorities to provide protection and assistance to new arrivals. Likewise, UNHCR’s capacity to provide support to the Governments in the region is challenged due to limited financial resources.

Despite some successful livelihoods interventions, most of the Congolese refugees and asylum-seekers are dependent on assistance and services provided by UNHCR and its partners.

Response

Throughout 2018, UNHCR interventions will be guided by the following strategic priorities to respond to protection and immediate needs of Congolese refugees:

**Increased sector expertise for regional guidance and support**—UNHCR will stand ready to support operations in the subregion with sector and technical expertise, guidance, oversight and direct deployments of staff to emergency areas.

**Replication of successful models of community based protection**—The regional strategy will aim to ensure access to territory, provision of international protection and humanitarian assistance, and application of effective protection and policy approaches across the region. This engagement will require additional resources especially in areas of registration, technology integration in relief distribution processes, and implementation of community protection systems based on successful models in the region.

**Information technology solutions for registration and commodity distribution**—UNHCR will capitalize on South Africa’s technology and innovation capabilities to identify and implement solutions in sectors related to energy, water, sanitation and education. Expert guidance and support will be provided to operations in the implementation of livelihood interventions. In addition, the regional office will play an instrumental role in harmonizing intervention on approaches in the subregion, identifying and leveraging on inter-connectedness with regional offices of other UN agencies, and inspiring knowledge-sharing across sectors through regional coordination mechanisms and regional communication channels. Resources will also be required for additional operational capabilities to support these sectoral interventions, including emergency coordination, field safety and security, supply and logistics, program management, risk and financial compliance, and administrative support.
Key intervention areas

Protection
UNHCR will focus on access to territory, reception, registration, access to protection services, prevention and response to SGBV and addressing the protection needs of unaccompanied and separated children and those with specific needs. UNHCR will:

- Provide technical support to UNHCR and partner staffs and government authorities in countries affected by the DRC influx in establishing, maintaining and improving the protection environment through dissemination of guidelines, monitoring visits, protection assessments, working meetings and multi-stakeholder consultations.
- Provide technical support in registration, database management and biometric technology integration for UNHCR staff, partner teams and government authorities in countries affected by the DRC influx.
- Ensure enhanced screening processes at border areas.
- Provide technical assistance to government national offices through equipment and advanced internet technology.
- Disseminate and implement best practices in community based protection, SGBV and child protection through replication of successful models from South Africa in countries affected by the emergency.
- Expand community based child protection models in refugee settlements.

WASH
UNHCR will take a lead in supplying potable water and regarding sanitation of the settlement. UNHCR will:

- Install boreholes equipped with solar motor pumps and ensure construction of latrines and a water distribution system.

Community empowerment and self-reliance
UNHCR will strengthen the local capacity to host refugees and promote peaceful coexistence among refugees and with host communities. UNHCR will:

- Support to assess and identify long-term livelihoods strategies and cash-transfer projects.
- Implement livelihoods and cash-transfer projects; promote the development of local markets.

Coordination and partnerships
UNHCR will support the authorities to ensure adequate and effective response to the needs of Congolese refugees. UNHCR will:

- Support for emergency and contingency planning.
- Support regional conferences, training programs and workshops for offices and teams involved in emergency response.
- Support to national institutions providing social services to refugees.
Coordination and working in partnership

UNHCR will continue to work closely with UN Agencies and NGO partners at both regional and national levels. Coordination with regional bodies, including also the Southern African Development Community will also be pursued.

UNHCR will advocate for the inclusion and mainstreaming of refugees into development and national action plans whenever feasible, and the needs of the refugee hosting communities are met.

Financial requirements

UNHCR’s 2018 ExCom budget for the South Africa regional office in response to the Congolese situation amounts to $3,546,443, presented below. No additional requirements are requested in this appeal.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONGOLESE SITUATION</th>
<th>ExCom Budget and subsequent adjustments related to the Congolese situation</th>
<th>Additional requirements</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fair protection environment</td>
<td>226,972</td>
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<tr>
<td>Access to the territory and risk of refoulement</td>
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<td>Fair protection processes and documentation</td>
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<td>Registration and profiling</td>
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<td>Security from violence and exploitation</td>
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<td>Peaceful co-existence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Logistics and operations support</td>
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<td>Programme management, coordination and support</td>
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<td>Support costs (7 per cent)</td>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
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Cover photo:
Displaced and struggling to survive. © UNHCR/John Wessels