INTER-AGENCY OPERATIONAL UPDATE



Relocation of urban refugees was completed bringing the total refugee population in the Lóvua settlement to 19,700. The construction of three permanent schools was concluded and inauguration will take place in February 2019.

KEY INDICATORS

75%

of Congolese refugees from Kasai in Angola are women and children

36,596

Biometrically registered Congolese refugees in Lunda Norte Province. A total of 23,835 refugees are currently receiving food assistance.

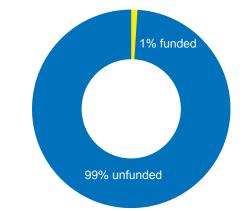
53,000

Inter-agency planning figure for Congolese refugees by the end of 2019.

70,000 60,000 50,000 40,000 30,000 20,000 10,000 -31-Dec-17 01-Feb-19 31-Dec-19 -DRC Refugees in Lunda Norte

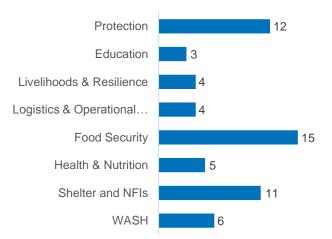
USD 59 million

requested for the Kasai emergency in 2019 (Regional response for the DRC Situation)



FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

Sector Requirements for 2019 | In million USD



REFUGEE POPULATION TRENDS

Update on Achievements

Operational Context

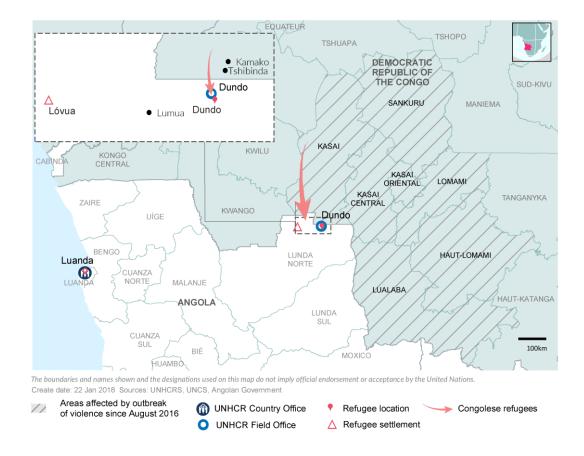
The outbreak of violence in the Kasai region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) in March 2017 triggered the internal displacement of some 1.4 million persons and the flight of over 35,000 refugees into Lunda Norte Province of Angola. However from August 2017, new arrivals decreased drastically. In 2018, the Lunda Norte refugee population only increased as a result of births and family reunification.

Refugees from Kasai were initially accommodated in two overcrowded transit centres in Dundo town, as well as spread throughout host communities in and around urban areas. The Government of Angola (GoA) therefore identified an area of land, Lóvua settlement, some 95 kms from Dundo town, for the refugees. In August 2017, relocation to this site began. By 19 January 2019, when relocation ended, over 19,700 refugees had been transferred to Lóvua refugee settlement by partners.

In October 2018, GoA initiated an operation to tackle illegal diamond mining, so called Operação Transparência. During the operation, over 400,000 Congolese nationals were expelled from Angola. Although the operation did not target refugees, a number of refugees in Lunda Norte were caught up in in and *refouled*. This prompted a surge in relocation to Lóvua as refugees accommodated there were at less risk.

Most refugees in Lóvua settlement celebrated the election of the new President of the DRC in January 2019 especially as he is from the same ethnic group and area of origin as a large majority of them.

Inter-Agency partners have been working together to ensure protection, build resilience among refugee communities and peaceful coexistence between refugees and host population. The main priorities for 2019 are: (1) to transition from emergency to development; (2) to strengthen refugees and host communities' leadership structures; and (3) to support refugees and host communities on livelihood related activities.



Achievements

Highlights

On 21 January, high-level representatives from the European Union, Belgium, France, Hungary, Netherlands and Portugal visited Lunda Norte Province, including Lóvua settlement, where they were able to see schools, clinics, boreholes and agricultural space.



Achievements and Impact

- During the reporting period, 15 Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) cases were registered.
- Between the end of December and January, four refoulement cases were documented along with 28 arbitrary detentions, who have all since been released. This represents a

reduction in figures recorded as compared to October and November 2018¹ during the peak of Operação Transparência.

- A one-day training session was conducted for child protection partners and authorities.
- Partners conducted a planning and training meeting on the Age, Gender, and Diversity Mainstreaming (AGDM) participatory assessment exercise, which will take place in the Lóvua settlement during the month of February 2019.
- Total of 328 refugee mobilisers undertook Portuguese language classes in Lóvua settlement.
- Out of the 36,596 individuals biometrically registered, 23,835 individuals (6,140 households) are receiving monthly assistance in Lóvua.



Achievements and Impact

- Construction of three permanent schools, which will be destined for primary education, was finalized in the Lóvua settlement.
- Each school has eight classrooms and a n administrative as per GoA standards. The projected number of children to attend primary school is 4,447 (6-11 years). As this exceeds the capacity of the three permanent schools, temporary schools as annexes will continue to be put to use. School registration will take place in February.



Achievements and Impact

The last phase of the relocation exercise, which started in October 2018, was completed in January. 5,158 individuals (1,413 households) were relocated from the urban zones in Lunda Norte to Lóvua settlement bringing the total population to 19,700. During relocation, refugees were provided with core relief items such as UNIQLO clothes as well as dignity kits.



¹ In October, number of arbitrary detentions was 625, and in November the number reached 1,550.

Achievements and Impact

- In Lóvua settlement, 5,175 medical consultations were held, including 1,558 children under 5-years, 347 prenatal and 143 postnatal care consultations. The second week of January saw the highest number of medical consultations recorded in a week 1,589, probably attributable to the increased number of refugees in Lóvua settlement due to relocation from urban areas.
- Total of 32 patients were referred to secondary health facilities in Dundo and three patients were referred to tertiary health care in Luanda.
- Health partners conducted a mission to the Lóvua settlement to discuss the importance of HIV prevention and transmission.
- The local government launched a campaign called 'Nascer Livre Para Brilhar', which aims to create awareness about HIV testing and mother-to-child transmission of HIV. The Lóvua settlement will be included in this campaign.
- There are currently six condom distribution points in Lóvua settlement.
- Total of 71 children were born and 125 women are currently enrolled on the family planning programme.
- Health partners organised a training for pregnant women on the importance of pre-natal consultations which reached 280 pregnant women.
- Total of 147 children are undergoing moderate acute malnutrition treatment and 13 children are on the severe acute malnutrition (SAM) treatment.
- Main morbidities are: Musculoskeletal pain (17, 73 per cent), Malaria (17, 25 per cent), Respiratory Infections (15,84 per cent), Intestinal Parasitosis (14,20 per cent) and Acute Diarrhea (6,73 per cent).
- Total of 8,283 mosquito nets were distributed as part of a national campaign that aims to prevent and create awareness on malaria prevention.



Achievements and Impact

- Food commodities required for January distributions were procured and delivered on time to relevant extended distribution points (EDPs) in Lóvua to ensure that refugees receive the planned food basket at full ration. The food pipeline based on the current caseload is covered until January 2020.
- Resource mobilization activities are underway to ensure that additional funds are secured to include the proposed CBI component and to sustain the pipeline beyond January 2020 to support refugees' food security-related needs.



Achievements and Impact

- In the villages where additional plots have been constructed, WASH partners have replaced the standard 5,000 litre tank with 8,000 litre tanks. Refugees in Lóvua receive around 18l of water per person per day.
- Due to vandalism as well as wear and tear, all water bladders have been replaced with water tanks.

The construction of three boreholes - two in the settlement and one in the host community - was finalized and partners will now begin the installation of water tanks.



Achievements and Impact

- As a result of relocation, all 57 plotted villages were occupied by the end of 2018.
- To date, 378 solar panels have been installed throughout Lóvua, with an average of three per village as well as in communal buildings, schools, water points and clinics.



LIVELIHOODS

- Partners visited Lóvua settlement to conduct resilience and livelihood assessments as a joint approach for livelihoods will be implemented in 2019.
- A livelihoods monitoring framework is being developed.
- Partners are developing a new project focusing on livelihoods and good governance with a view to bridging the nexus between emergency relief and development activities.

Working in partnership

Humanitarian and development partners are actively supporting the Government of Angola to ensure adequate and effective response to the needs of the Congolese refugees. A biweekly 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. Sectoral working group coordination meetings are also organised weekly in Dundo

Partners in the Response:

- Angolan Red Cross Society
- ADPP Ajuda de Desenvolvimento de Povo para Povo Angola

- Caritas
- 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

Financial Information

Agencies are very grateful for the financial support provided by donors who have contributed to their activities with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds as well as for those who have contributed directly to the operation.

External / Donor Relations

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LINKS

Angola Operational Data Portal