

Southern Africa Region

March 2020

The 16 countries in Southern Africa host around **8.9 million people of concern** – 1.1m refugees and asylum-seekers, mainly from the Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Rwanda.

UNHCR in the Southern Africa region contributes to protection and solutions for **5.6 million internally displaced persons (IDPs)** – over 5 million in DRC, over 180,000 in Mozambique, over 134,000 in Republic of the Congo (ROC) and 270,000 in Zimbabwe.

Between 1 January 2019 and 25 March 2020, **30,348 refugees and asylum-seekers voluntarily repatriated to their country of origin** from asylum countries in the region. UNHCR has assisted **81 resettlement departures** in 2020 as of 28 February.

KEY FIGURES (as of 25 March)

767,693

Refugees in Southern Africa

311,670

Asylum-seekers in Southern Africa

5,600,782

IDPs in the DRC, Mozambique, ROC and Zimbabwe

2,134,349

IDP returnees in the DRC between April 2018 to September 2019*

PRESENCE AND STAFF (as of 28 February)

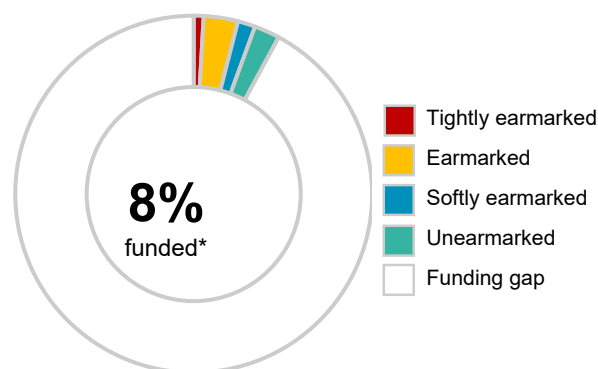
Regional Bureau for Southern Africa	60
Angola	51
Democratic Republic of the Congo	450
Malawi	47
Mozambique	24
Republic of the Congo	66
South Africa Multi-Country Office (Botswana, Comoros, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mauritius, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa)	72
Zambia	93
Zimbabwe	30
TOTAL	893

*Confirmed in October 2019 by the *Commissions de Mouvements de Population*, composed of provincial authorities and humanitarian actors.

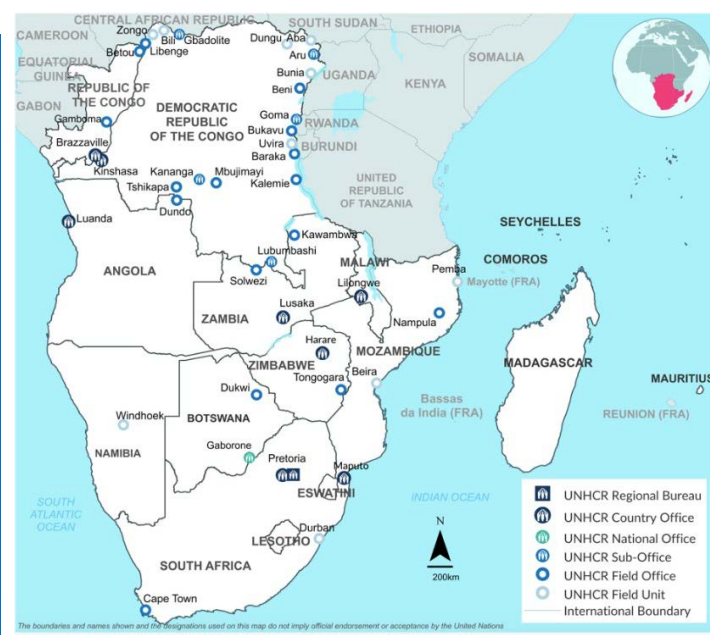
FUNDING (as of 19 March)

USD 303.2 million

UNHCR's financial requirements 2020



* Including indicative allocation of softly earmarked and unearmarked contributions.



UNHCR's Strategic Directions for Southern Africa

Protect: UNHCR advocates accession to, and ratification of, international and regional instruments on refugees, IDPs and stateless persons as well as lifting existing reservations. UNHCR also supports the development of national legal frameworks and structures on the protection of refugees and stateless persons. Further, UNHCR provides capacity building support to refugee management including registration and implementation of national legal frameworks in line with international standards.

Respond: UNHCR provides protection and emergency assistance to populations of concern and host communities, anchoring the response in national services and government systems, development plans, multi-year strategies and regional protection frameworks and policies.

Include: UNHCR promotes social cohesion and peaceful co-existence in refugee-hosting communities through a community-based approach, protection monitoring and social and legal assistance. UNHCR also advocates for the inclusion of refugees and refugee hosting areas in the national development plans and national efforts to achieve Sustainable Development Goals.

Empower: In most countries in the region, as prospects for voluntary repatriation remain limited, UNHCR is focusing on advancing local integration through advocating for socio-economic and legal inclusion as well as enhancing education, self-reliance and livelihood programmes in cooperation with host governments and other relevant stakeholders in line with the Global Compact on Refugees.

Solve: UNHCR promotes comprehensive solutions to refugee situations hosted by asylum countries in the region through voluntary repatriation, local integration and third country resettlement.

The Global Refugee Forum (GRF): On 17 December 2018, the United Nations General Assembly affirmed the [Global Compact on Refugees](#), a framework for more predictable and equitable responsibility-sharing, recognizing that a sustainable solution to refugee situations cannot be achieved without international cooperation. Arrangements for follow-up and review include [GRF](#) every four years and high-level meetings between forums. The High-Level Segment on Statelessness was held on 7 October 2019, with thirteen States in Southern Africa providing 53 pledges. During the first GRF held in Geneva in December 2019, from the Southern Africa region, 15 countries and one city made 67 pledges. In addition, private companies as well as sports associations made 18 pledges. Pledges focus on improving the strength of asylum systems, including refugees in national services, offering land and economic inclusion, and changing legislation to better address needs and provide solutions.

Financial Information

UNHCR is grateful for the support provided by donors who have contributed to the Southern Africa region and have contributed to UNHCR programmes with softly earmarked and unearmarked funds.

EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

United States of America 6.2m | Sweden 3.1m | Japan 1m | CERF 1m

SOFTLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

United States of America 13.8m | Germany 7.8m | Canada 2.3m

UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Sweden 76.4m | Norway 41.4m | Netherlands 36.1m | Denmark 34.6m | United Kingdom 31.7m | Germany 25.9m | Switzerland 16.4m | Private donors Spain 13.2m

CONTACTS

Joan Allison, Chief, External Engagement Section, UNHCR Regional Bureau for Southern Africa
allison@unhcr.org, Tel: +27(0)681046659

Markku Aikomus, Senior Donor Relations Officer, UNHCR Regional Bureau for Southern Africa
aikomus@unhcr.org, Tel: +27(0)8179774

LINKS: [TWITTER](#) | [FACEBOOK](#) | [DRC SITUATION](#)