

Angola

12 September 2017

There are currently **2,018 refugees living in Lóvuá settlement**, this represents six per cent of the overall refugee population from the DRC in northern Angola.

So far, **586 tents have been distributed to refugees in Lóvuá settlement, since the beginning of the relocation.**

A water tank with the capacity of 5,000 litres has been provided to Lóvuá Municipality to improve host communities' access to potable water.

KEY FIGURES

76%

Of Congolese refugees in Angola are women and children

31,278

Biometrically registered Congolese refugees in Dundo area (8 September 2017)

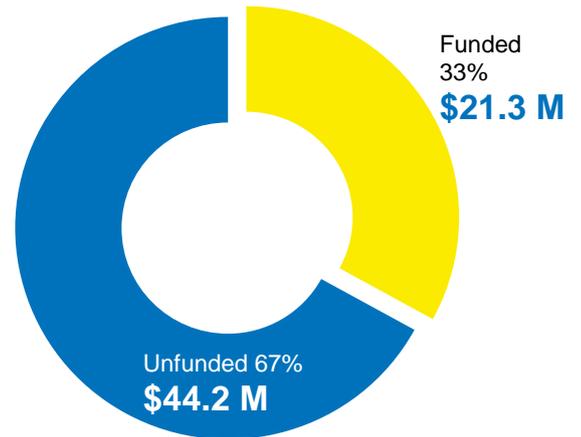
50,000

Inter-agency planning figure for Congolese refugees from the Kasai region in northern Angola by the end of the year

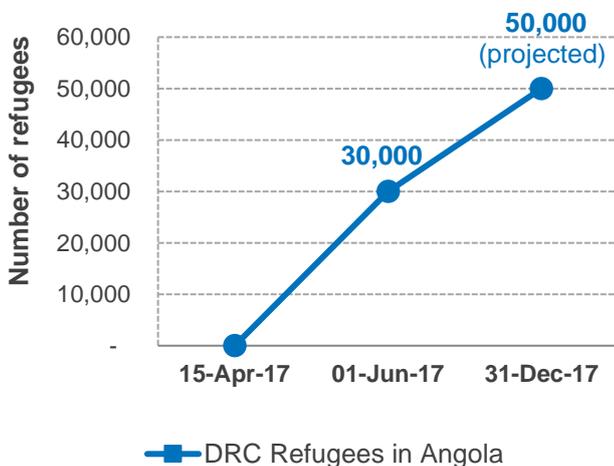
FUNDING (AS OF 12 SEPTEMBER)

USD 65,507,610

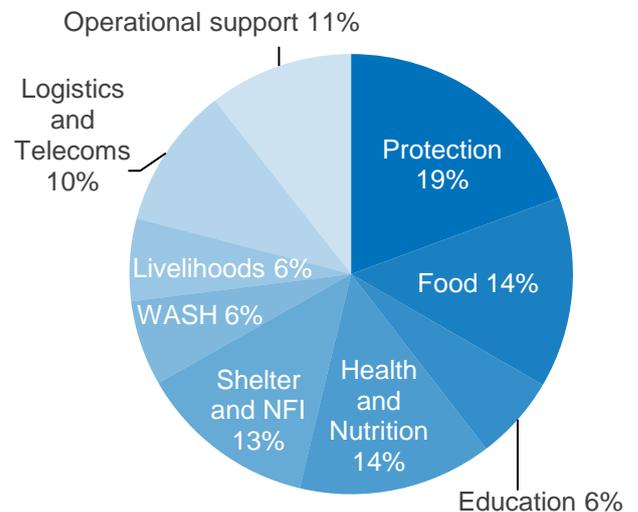
requested for Angola Inter-agency Refugee Response

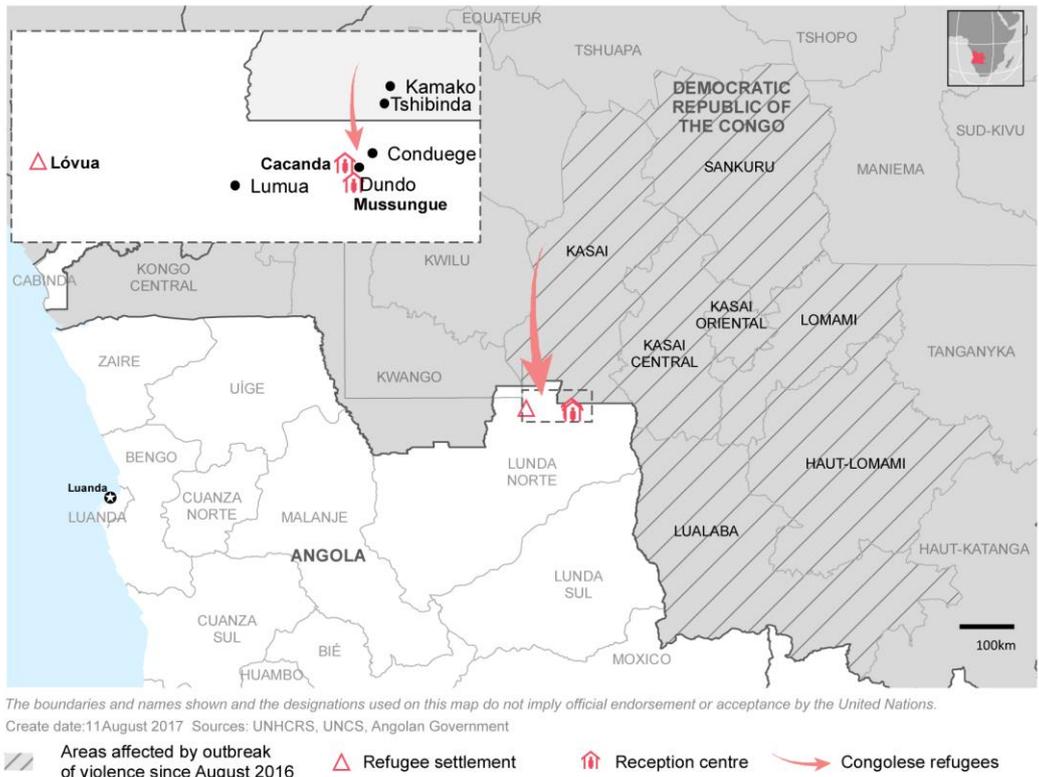


POPULATION TRENDS



FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS





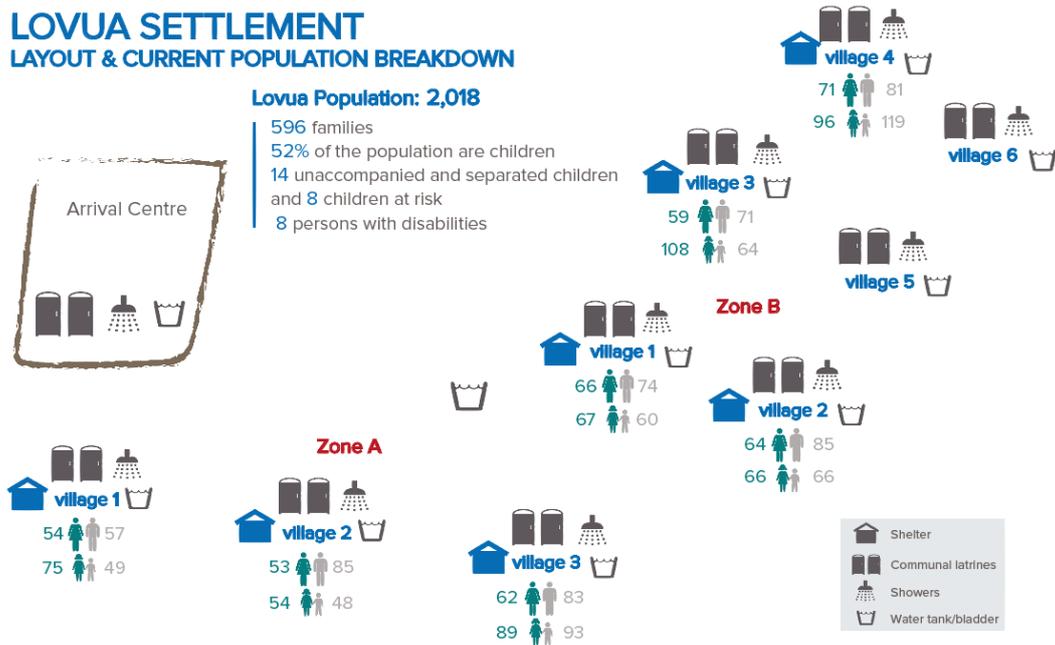
Operational Context

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 31,000 refugees, into Lunda Norte Province of Angola. Refugees have reported generalized violence, mass killings, mutilations, burning of property, destruction of villages, schools and churches, a wide range of human rights abuses including rape of women and girls, shortage of food and the lack of access to basic services and goods. While refugees continue to arrive in Lunda Norte, the number of arrivals per day has decreased significantly since early July 2017. Interviews with newly-arrived refugees indicate that the main roads to the border are largely blocked forcing those who enter Angola, to use unofficial border entry points.

The DRC-Angola border serves as a main channel for trade between the two countries. While the border is closed to trade and commerce, the Government of Angola (GoA) has maintained an open door policy to welcome any Congolese nationals fleeing as a result of the civil unrest. As the situation remains volatile in the Kasai region, humanitarian agencies in Angola have developed a response plan to assist an influx of 50,000 refugees by end December 2017. The interagency humanitarian response for the current population of 31,278 Congolese refugees covers the areas of protection, emergency shelter, food and nutrition, non-food items, water, sanitation, hygiene, health and emergency education, until the end of 2017.

On 8 August, the voluntary relocation of refugees, from Mussungue reception center to Lóvua settlement, some 100 kilometers from Dundo, has begun. Mussungue reception centre is now closed. Relocation of refugees from Cacanda reception centre commenced on 31 August and is ongoing. The current refugee population in Lóvua settlement stands at 2,018, or six per cent of the Congolese refugee population in northern Angola. A further 6,825 refugees continue to live in Cacanda pending further relocation to Lóvua. The settlement has a total planned capacity for approximately 30,000 refugees, in order to effectively respond to the needs of the refugees living in Lunda Norte. The lack of heavy machinery to open primary and secondary roads in Lóvua, continues to delay site development and installation of basic facilities to receive refugees.

In Lóvua settlement, refugees are currently living in seven villages in zones A and B. Additional villages are being prepared with the installation of basic facilities. The next villages to receive refugees relocated from Cacanda are villages 5 and 6 (please see image below).



Layout, current occupancy and available facilities of the Lóvua settlement, as at 12 September 2017.

Achievements



PROTECTION

Achievements and Impact

- **Registration:** As of 8 September, the total number of biometrically registered refugees from the Democratic Republic of Congo is **31,278**, out of which 15,653 (50 per cent) are women and girls. A total of 2,018 refugees live in Lóvua and 6,825 in Cacanda, while the remaining population resides with host communities. The number of arrivals has been low since July, with no new arrivals recorded in the reporting period. The change in the refugee population figures is due to the deactivation of 2,037 individuals (963 households) who missed two consecutive general food distributions (GFD).
- **Relocation:** On 8 September, a second convoy facilitating the voluntary relocation of refugees from Cacanda to Lóvua took place with the transfer of 367 refugees (84 households), to village 4B. Upon arrival, refugees received an information package backed by audio support in the various languages spoken in the settlement.
- **Child Protection:** Protection partners are working closely to ensure coordination and relocation of 31 unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) currently living in Cacanda. A short/mid-term strategy is in place to closely follow-up the fostering of these children, with families in Lóvua. The relocation of 31 children to Lóvua is scheduled for the first week of October 2017.
- Total of 934 children living in Cacanda attended the child friendly space (CFS) during the week. In Lóvua, the number of children who attended the two CFS increased to 1,230.
- **Sexual and gender based violence (SGBV):** Five SGBV incidents were identified, including two cases of sexual assault, one case of rape and two cases of forced marriage. All survivors were girls and they were appropriately assisted.
- Based on an assessment, conducted by the WASH sector in Cacanda, activities are in place to ensure the mainstreaming of SGBV in WASH interventions, namely including women and girls in the assessment and implementation of WASH programs; ensuring that all latrines and showers are separated by gender and have proper lighting, doors and a lock system for privacy and security. Recommendations are also being followed to identify specific sanitation sites for children and ensure persons with disabilities benefit from adapted latrines.
- Focus Group Discussions were held in Lóvua with women, men and children of concern to identify and strengthen prevention, and response mechanisms relevant to SGBV. Key recommendations included: response to the impunity and the need for efficient prosecution of SGBV perpetrators; prevention and response to survival sex; strengthening of the community based approach (CBA) to ensure involvement of community members in SGBV messages; security awareness, and improving the screening of people entering the sites, by establishing a community watch group to work with the Police and monitor the site at night.

- **Border monitoring:** Protection team and the GoA Migration Services (SME) are working on consolidating the data on refugees who have returned to the DRC during the last few weeks, including registered refugees. Joint border monitoring visits continue on a weekly basis.
- **Communicating with Communities (CwC):** The Relocation Information Team, composed by a protection team and 15 refugee volunteers in Cacanda and Lóvua, continue to provide information to newly arrived refugees and provide answers to any queries about the site. Enhanced information packages and visibility items will soon be available to facilitate the work of the volunteers and ensure their identification among the refugee population.
- **Helpdesk:** An increasing number of refugees approach the protection helpdesk in Lóvua. The majority of the claims relate to unregistered individuals, who travelled to Lóvua by their own means, issues pertaining to peaceful coexistence among refugees and cases of domestic abuse. All claims are monitored and receive assistance by protection partners and local authorities as appropriate. Case-management also takes place in Cacanda in parallel to relocation efforts.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The lack of heavy machinery to open primary and secondary roads in Lóvua, continues to delay site development and installation of basic facilities to receive refugees.
- The slow pace of relocation to Lóvua, poses challenges to the protection response, both in Cacanda and Lóvua, by stretching the existing capacity of protection actors and preventing optimal use of resources for more durable response mechanisms.



FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

Achievements and Impact

- **General food distribution:** All food commodities are in storage, in Dundo, for food distribution, which is planned for Lóvua on 13 September and from 16 to 19 September, in Cacanda reception centre. Super Cereal will be distributed to pregnant and lactating mothers, in the coming food distribution cycle, to complement the distribution of Super Cereal Plus to prevent acute malnutrition among children.
- **Nutrition:** Malnutrition trends remain stable. A total of 97 children, between the age of 6 and 59 months, registered in Cacanda, were screened for nutritional status and needs prior to their relocation to Lóvua. One girl, under the age of two years, was identified with Moderate Acute Malnutrition.



HEALTH

Achievements and Impact

- **Primary health care and medical consultations:** General consultations have slightly decreased (from 1,220) to 1,092 cases. In Cacanda, the main morbidity factor was malaria (28.8 per cent). In Lóvua, the main morbidity was linked to unintentional physical injury (22 per cent).
- **Vaccination:** 45 children received the Bacillus Calmette–Guérin (BCG) vaccination while 79 polio and 22 children were vaccinated against measles. Some 58 pregnant women were vaccinated against Tetanus.
- **Sexual reproductive health (SRH):** In Cacanda, nine women received antenatal consultations (ANC), while in Lóvua, ten received ANC and one postnatal consultation.
- **Mental health:** Mental health activities continued this week, with a total of ten individual consultations and six group sessions. The mental health team continued psycho-stimulation activities and group sessions, with parents of malnourished children. In addition, a training was conducted at Chitato Hospital on paediatric HIV counselling to the medical team.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- In Cacanda reception centre, cases of diarrhoea are high and it can be linked to the poor WASH conditions in the reception centre.



WATER AND SANITATION

Achievements and Impact

- **Coordination:** WASH sector partners held three joint site visits, to Cacanda, to assess and respond to the urgent sanitation needs generated by this week's heavy rains and wind. An inter-agency task force provided recommendations to improve the drainage, replace and dismantle damaged latrines, roofing of latrines and showers and upgrade the water points. The terms of reference for the water management committees in Lóvua and Cacanda have been finalized.
- **Cacanda:** WASH sector provided water trucks to ensure provision of an average of 20 litres of water per person per day in the reception centre. Roofing and fences, removed from latrines and showers by refugees in need of shelter from the rains, are being replaced. A flood-proof latrine has been designed and will be piloted at the beginning of next week.
- **Lóvua:** All inhabited villages have WASH facilities, including drainage ditches and hand washing points. Village B4 is ready and waiting for the opening of the access road to ensure supply of water. Water trucking with two trucks per day serves the water needs of the population and temporary workers on the site with an average of 24 litres of water per person per day.

- A water tank with a storage capacity of 5,000 litres has been allocated to the host community near Lóvua site. This has enabled the host community to access treated water close to the homes. An assessment is underway to identify a second host community in Lóvua for a similar intervention.
- The Government has contributed two water trucks, five water tanks and two light vehicles for the refugee response in Lóvua. One water truck is active in the settlement; the water tanks will be installed in Zone C. One vehicle will be allocated to the Police in Lóvua municipality.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The design and tendering of the new water supply and distribution system for Lóvua is delayed; in addition there is also a shortfall in funding. WASH partners are exploring additional options.
- While solid waste collection, with plastic bags, was introduced in Lóvua, further improvements are still needed.



SHELTER AND NFIS

Achievements and Impact

- **Lóvua:** A total of 367 refugees received core relief items including blankets, mats, jerry cans, solar lamps, kitchen sets upon relocation from Cacanda to Lóvua. Total of 98 tents were distributed together with Shelter/WASH kits (while these were incomplete kits, the remainder of the items will be distributed shortly).
- **Cacanda:** On 2 September, a heavy storm hit Cacanda centre damaging a substantial part of the fencing in the distribution/registration and waiting areas and roofing structures. The flooding has damaged hangars and tents, communal shelters, 20 family tents and has destroyed several makeshift shelters. Due to this destruction, refugee families in Cacanda occupied the distribution centre to seek shelter. Partners immediately proceeded with the provision of 4x5 m plastic tarpaulin pieces to affected families and engaged a team to structurally enhance the communal hangars and help reconstruct the affected areas. Field partners carried out a rapid needs assessment and started repairing temporary shelters including through the support of refugee volunteers. Some 100 households benefited from this intervention.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- The road in village 2B is ready and the road linking village 3B to village 4B has been manually opened.
- As indicated above (see Protection) the lack of available heavy machinery remains a major constraint in the development of Lóvua settlement and continues to delay the opening of primary and secondary roads, negatively affecting all aspects of the refugee

response. Shelter partners are in the process of engaging the services of suitable equipment to expedite road opening.



ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY

- **Forest preservation:** A group of refugee workers has been trained for tree marking and protection. Activities start in villages prior to clearing of the area. **Trees in over ninety hectares of land** have been marked by refugee and host community workers in Lóvua settlement to promote environmental preservation in the areas between the villages. The aim is to preserve green belts of 0.8 hectares to ensure that forest corridors are maintained and that rainwater is better infiltrated into the soil.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

- Sixty solar street lights are expected to arrive in Angola in the coming week. While these will provide lighting and improved security to the community in Lóvua, the lighting needs of the site are greater. Partners are exploring ways of ensuring additional street lights.

Working in partnership

- Humanitarian and development partners, working on the ground and in the country on various projects, are actively supporting the Government of Angola to ensure adequate and effective response to the needs of the Congolese refugees. A weekly 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 on Protection, WASH, Health/Nutrition and Communication with Communities are also organized weekly in Dundo.

Partners in the response:

- Angolan Red Cross Society
- CARITAS
- CICAJ - Centro de Investigação Científica e Assessoria Jurídica
- 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 - Médecins du Monde
- MSF - Médecins Sans Frontières
- 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

The [Angola Inter-Agency Refugee Appeal \(April – December 2017\)](#) is available on the [Angola Operational Data Portal](#). Agencies are very grateful for the financial support provided by donors who have contributed to their activities with un-earmarked and broadly earmarked funds, as well as for those who have contributed directly to the operations in Angola.

Special thanks to the Central Emergency Response Fund for their contributions to the inter-agency refugee response in Angola.

Special thanks to Denmark, Italy, the United States of America and private donors in Italy and in the United States of America for their contributions to UNHCR's operations in Angola.

Financial requirements by agency:

Organization	Total (USD)
FAO Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	1,030,000
IOM International Organization for Migration	1,869,438
JRS Jesuit Refugee Service	1,574,790
MAG Mine Advisory Group	585,000
UNAIDS The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS	400,000
UNDP United Nations Development Programme	2,550,000
UNDSS United Nations Department for Safety and Security	830,000
UNFPA United Nations Population Fund	1,367,414
UNHCR United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	36,705,352
UNICEF United Nations' Children's Fund	8,499,703
UNRCO United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office	100,000
WFP World Food Programme	9,100,000
WHO World Health Organization	895,913
Total	65,507,610

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LINKS

[Angola Operational Data Portal](#)