In Numbers

32,980 refugees currently registered in two reception centers in Dundo, Lunda Norte

1,495 refugees relocated to Lovua as of 15 August

51% of the refugees assisted with food are women and girls, and over 50% are children under 18 years

People assisted 28,112 in July 2017

Global Humanitarian Funding

Overall: USD 65.5 million

WFP Net Funding Requirements

EMOP 201083 USD 12.1 million

Highlights

• WFP reached 28,112 refugees in July through general food distribution (GFD).

• Refugees from 8 August have started to move from the Mussungue reception centre to the Lovua settlement camp. Refugees hosted at Cacanda reception centre will start moving to Lovua as soon as the plot clearing process is completed.

• The arrival rate in Lunda Norte province of Angola from Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) has decreased from 300 persons/week in July to 150 persons/week in August.

As of 8 August, UNHCR had registered the arrival of 32,980 refugees in Lunda Norte since April 2017.

As the security situation in the Kasai region remains uncertain, humanitarian organizations in Angola are prepared to provide protection and assistance to an additional 50,000 refugees from the DRC who may seek asylum in the country by the end of 2017. The above scenario would bring the total number of DRC refugees arriving in Lunda Norte in 2017 to 80,000 individuals.

The Government of Angola has identified the site of Lóvua, some 94 km west of Dundo, to host refugees. There will be an initial movement of 360 people/day and this may increase to up to 1,000 people/day.

Refugee food security status remains stable and nutritional status appears to have improved. Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) stands at 1.5% and no cases of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) have been reported as per the latest assessment by Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF).

WFP Response

Prior to the current emergency response, WFP did not have an operational presence in Angola. Following an official request for support from the Government of Angola on 22 May 2017, WFP took immediate action to respond to the crisis and provide food assistance to the DRC refugee population in coordination with UN and NGO partners through IR-EMOP 201076.

Situation Update

Violence and ethnic tensions in the Kasai Province, of the DRC, has forced over 32,000 people to seek safety in Angola’s Lunda Norte province. Refugees have reported reported indiscriminate mass killing of unarmed civilians, rape, burning of villages of unarmed civilians, and people, dismemberment and other grave human rights abuses together with the shortage of food, basic goods and services.
In May, WFP and FAO conducted a joint rapid food security and agriculture assessment in Dundo. Findings confirmed high levels of food insecurity among the displaced, as well as high rates of pre-existing poverty.

A rapid market assessment undertaken by WFP found the local market had the capacity to support additional demands for basic food commodities. However, it recommended the use of vouchers instead of cash in view of the prevailing macroeconomic conditions and associated risks.

1 August, WFP launched an Emergency Operation (EMOP 201083) for a period of one year. The EMOP aims to ensure that vulnerable refugee populations from the greater Kasai region of DRC are able to meet their basic food and nutrition requirements while preparations are being made for more durable solutions.

WFP has established a light operational presence in both Luanda and Dundo, and is closely coordinating with key partners, including UNHCR and World Vision International (WVI), on its activities.

Food and Nutrition Assistance

The EMOP provides unconditional in-kind food assistance, including ready to use supplementary food (RUSF). WFP will consider using a phased approach to implement cash-based transfers (CBT), which will be informed by multi-sectorial assessments.

General food distribution (GFD) took place on 13 August for refugees hosted at Mussungue reception center and from 16 to 18 August for refugees hosted at Cacanda reception center.

To prevent malnutrition, WFP, through its implementing partner WVI, distributed Supercereal Plus to all children aged between 6 and 23 months upon arrival at Lovua settlement camp in August.

To date, MSF has been administering treatment to a portion of the MAM cases (MUAC below 120mm) as the caseload is relatively small, while WFP, working through WVI, is focusing on MAM prevention. WFP is currently discussing with WVI to carry out both prevention and treatment interventions as well as community mobilization activities which include the delivery of nutrition messaging.

Supply Chain

The following commodities were resourced in July to cover August and part of September distributions: 810 mt of maize meal, 108 mt of pulses, 43 mt of vegetable oil, 9 mt of salt, and 43 mt of SC+.

Two mobile storage units (MSUs) are being dispatched to Lovua to be used as food warehouses. WFP is also maintaining buffer stock capacity of 900 MT in Dundo until the relocation of refugees to Lovua is completed.

WFP is in the process of expanding the pool of transporters operating to and within Angola with the hope of securing lower transport rates going forward by increasing competition.

WFP is also exploring the viability of shipping the cargo using a combination of sea vessels from Durban to Luanda and overland transport for onward movement from Luanda to Dundo/Lovua.

Resourcing Update

Resources are urgently required to continue providing support to vulnerable refugees fleeing the conflict in Kasai, DRC. A pipeline break is expected from January, 2018.

Contacts

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*Prevention of Acute Malnutrition children 6-24 months

$=USD