Regional Preparedness for Cross-Border Displacements from DRC to Republic of Congo, Angola, Tanzania and Zambia

Standard Project Report 2017

World Food Programme in South Africa, Republic of (ZA)
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Project Results

Activities and Operational Partnerships

Regional Context
By July 2017, the Democratic Republic of Congo’s (DRC) chronic humanitarian crises had assumed acute dimensions owing to rising political tensions and ethnic violence that fueled significant additional displacement within and from the provinces of North Kivu, South Kivu, Ituri, Tanganyika and Haut-Katanga. The escalation of violence in the east of the country, coupled with some 12 months of brutal clashes in the Kasai region, brought the total number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in DRC to 3.8 million.

In the Kasai region alone, an estimated 1.4 million people were said to be internally displaced, with an additional 30,000 having fled across the border into neighboring Angola. UNHCR forecast that 50,000 refugees could require assistance there by the end of 2017. In May 2017, WFP started responding to the needs of the refugees in Angola through the Immediate Response Emergency Operation (IR-EMOP) 201076, which was succeeded by EMOP 201083 in August 2017.

The intensification of long-running conflicts in North Kivu, South Kivu and Tanganyika caused large numbers of civilian casualties and the displacement of well over half a million people by mid-2017.

Escalating conflicts, uncertainty over the long overdue presidential election and deepening economic woes presaged potential additional cross-border movements into the Republic of Congo, Zambia, Tanzania and Angola.

WFP initiated preparedness measures to support operational planning in the form of a regional Emergency Preparedness Activity (IR-PREP).

Project Objectives
The IR-PREP aimed to carry out logistics capacity assessments in Angola, the Republic of Congo, South Africa, Tanzania and Zambia, establish food commodity storage capacity in Angola, and secure and preposition spare mobile storage units for contingency purposes.

Project Activities
Activities carried out under the IR-PREP included:

1. Logistics Capacity Assessments (LCAs) in Angola, the Republic of Congo, Tanzania and Zambia to support operational planning.
2. The installation of four Mobile Storage Units in the Lunda Norte Province of Angola for advance prepositioning of food commodities for the refugee response and the purchase of two additional Mobile Storage Units positioned in South Africa (Durban) as contingency for immediate response.

Four consultants were recruited to undertake logistics capacity and corridor assessments in the different countries. The assessments entailed information gathering and consolidation. Data was obtained through visits to various sites, road travel to several locations, meetings with government counterparts and relevant national institutions and various entities directly involved in logistics and supply chain activities. Furthermore, consultations were held with food suppliers, NGOs and UN agencies.

Results
Through this regional Emergency Preparedness Activity (IR-PREP):

1. Four logistics capacity assessments (LCAs) were carried out: in Zambia, Tanzania, the Republic of Congo and Angola. The digital version of the LCA (dLCA) has been uploaded onto the Logistics Cluster website and is publicly accessible at http://dlca.logcluster.org/display/public/DLCA/LCA+Homepage. The successful completion and upload of LCA is of benefit to the entire humanitarian community as it is a reliable single platform for vital country specific information needed in planning and implementing logistics activities for emergency and humanitarian activities. Although the LCA was not undertaken for South Africa, other high-level assessments were carried out and a comprehensive assessment is planned for 2018.
2. The installation of Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) in Angola augmented WFP’s storage capacity in the country by 2,000 mt at a new location in Lóvua, Lunda Norte province. With added storage capacity, WFP was able to preposition buffer stocks to cover food needs for more than one month and guarantee food availability even as refugee numbers increased.

3. Three additional MSUs of 500 mt capacity were acquired and are now stored in South Africa as contingency for immediate dispatch when required.

4. WFP logistics teams conducted supply corridor assessment missions in Angola, Tanzania and Zambia. The outcome of these assessments has provided vital information for the planning of food delivery through various corridors.

Lessons Learned

Key lessons learned include:

While information was collected on major corridors, it was often difficult to obtain sufficient detail from government officials. Ensuring adequate information flows between government stakeholders and WFP remains a priority.

To facilitate information gathering, the Tanzania Country Office secured an introduction letter from the Ministry of Works, Transport and Communications (MoWTC) requesting various national institutions to provide WFP with information. This assisted the obtaining of information from various institutions involved in logistics and transport activities. Furthermore, through a partnership established between WFP and the National Institute of Transport (NIT), with the support of MoWTC, two lecturers participated in the gathering of data. The involvement of experts from NIT ensured the availability of comprehensive and quality data for the LCA.

For Angola specifically, finding Lusophones with in-depth knowledge of supply chain issues specific to WFP and the Angolan context was a challenge. A roster of staff with the requisite skills and languages should be established in the region.
Figures and Indicators

Data Notes
Cover page photo © WFP/ Jonathan Petersen
WFP warehouses in Dodoma, a regional hub for food commodities. It serves Tanzania’s neighbours, including the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Project Indicators

Output Indicators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Output</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Planned</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>% Actual vs. Planned</th>
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<tr>
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