



World Food Programme

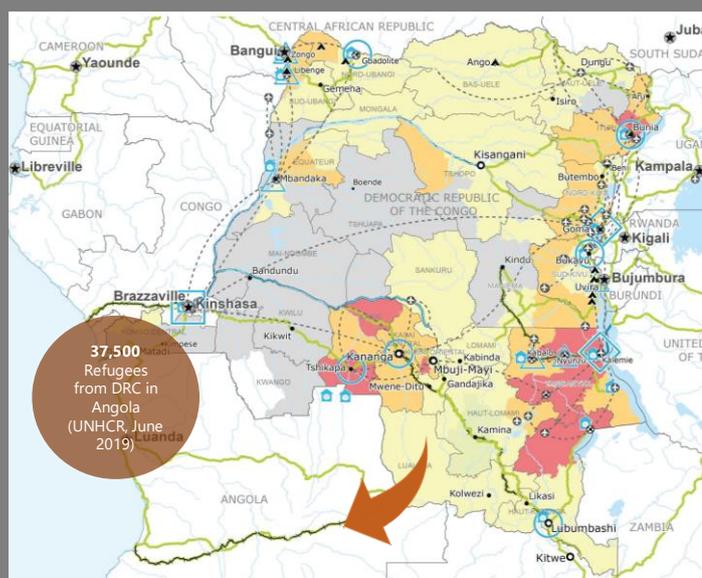
SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Angola Country Brief August 2019



Operational Context

- The escalation of violence in the Kasai region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) in March 2017 caused over 35,000 refugees to flee across the border into Lunda Norte Province, Angola.
- UNHCR with support of humanitarian partners conducted a 'repatriation intention survey' in Lovua settlement, 9-20 May 2019. Almost 85% of the respondents expressed their willingness to return to their country of origin.
- Spontaneous repatriation begun on 17 August. As of 3 September, some 12,000 persons had crossed the border, the majority of them refugees.
- Voluntary repatriation facilitated by UNHCR is planned from 16 September.
- WFP, in collaboration with the Government of Angola, UNHCR, cooperating partners and refugees from DRC, have been providing live-saving food and nutrition assistance since 2017.



Population: 31.8 million

2017 Human Development Index: 147 out of 189

Income Level: Lower middle

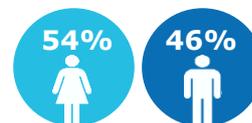
Chronic malnutrition: 38% and wasting malnutrition 4.9%

In Numbers

288.672 mt of food assistance distributed in August 2019

US\$ 3.3 m six months (September 2019 to February 2020) net funding requirements, representing 58% of total

17,697 people assisted in August 2019



Operational Updates

- In response to the continuing needs of the DRC refugees in Lunda Norte, WFP has developed a Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (T-ICSP) for the period August 2018 to December 2019, with the objective to meet the basic food security and nutrition needs of the refugees. Currently, a three-year Interim Country Strategic Plan is being finalized for January 2020 onwards to provide support to the refugees from DRC and technical support to the Government of Angola on school feeding, nutrition, and vulnerability assessment and mapping.
- The situation for refugees in Lunda Norte remains difficult as movement is restricted, security is of concern, and education opportunities for children are limited.
- Despite UNHCR assurance that humanitarian support will be provided, many refugees began to leave Lovua settlement in the early hours of 17 August. Families left for DRC on foot, carrying all their belongings.
- The Angolan government agreed to support the spontaneous repatriation process, by providing transportation from Lovua to the three border towns of Chicolondo, Nachiri and Tchissanda.
- Because of rising tension in the settlement during the initial days of the movement, food distribution for the month of August had to be postponed. It was resumed following agreement by all partners, and added police security provided by the government.
- Despite the changing number of refugees in the settlement, WFP was able to assist over 18,000 people in August.
- On 23 August, UNHCR and representatives of the governments of DRC and Angola held a meeting where the three parties agreed to support facilitated voluntary repatriation.

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Photo: Food distribution at Dundo
Bernardo Florindo, WVA

- The DRC government agreed to provide transportation from the border towns of Kandjaji, Kamako and Kalamba-Mbuji to the refugees' points of origin.
- Some refugees are expected to stay in the settlement and will largely rely on humanitarian assistance. Findings from a UNHCR/WFP Joint Assessment Mission (JAM) undertaken in June 2018 indicated that more than 60 percent of the refugees solely rely on WFP assistance to meet their food needs.
- The nutrition situation remains relatively stable with Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rates below 2%.
- Market assessment findings in 2017 recommended the introduction of cash-based transfers (CBT) to enhance dietary diversity and address beneficiary preferences for locally available foods. However, WFP has been unable to implement planned CBT activities due to funding constraints.

WFP Country Strategy



Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (2017-2021)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
5.7 m	2.4 m	3.3 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Provide food assistance to refugees from DRC, contributing to Strategic Outcome 1 "Refugees and other crisis-affected populations in Angola are able to meet their basic food and nutrition requirements during times of crisis".

Strategic outcome 1 contributes to Sustainable Development Goal 2 "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture".

It is also in line with Sustainable Development Goal 17: "Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development" as food and livelihoods assistance to refugees from DRC is a high priority of the international community and the Government of Angola until durable solutions are in place.

Activities:

- Provide in-kind/CBT assistance to the refugees from DRC.
- Promote refugees' self-reliance by engaging them in livelihoods projects.

Monitoring

- WFP continues to closely monitor the nutrition situation, working with UNHCR and partners to ensure the provision of nutrition screening services and appropriate referrals and treatment of acute malnutrition.
- WFP field monitors carry out distribution and process monitoring during food distributions. The information is used by WFP to ensure that food distributions start on time, meet WFP standards for safety and protection, and support partners in resolving technical issues.

- WFP through its cooperating partner collects quarterly post distribution monitoring (PDM) data on tablets to determine the effects of assistance and assess household food security and the use of coping strategies. PDM also identifies assistance utilisation and access to other sources of assistance, household income and expenditures, accountability and protection issues.
- The PDM data for the second quarter of 2019 showed an increase in the number of households with an acceptable Food Consumption Score (FCS) for both male and female headed households. However, there was a slight increase in the number of households with poor FCS in both male and female headed households. When asked what coping mechanism beneficiaries adopted when experiencing food shortages, more than 90% of the households indicated that they limited portions, while 80% of the households reduced the number of meals per day. A significant number of households also borrowed food from relatives.
- WFP is committed to ensure that gender and protection are factored in during project monitoring. Thus, monitoring activities are designed to track achievements on gender equality, decision-making and empowerment of women as well as to ensure beneficiaries' protection and accountability of WFP staff and cooperating partners.
- To mainstream gender and highlight potential issues, WFP presents indicative data disaggregated by the gender of the head of household. Regular focus group discussions with refugee representatives and members of Food Management Committees are held to gauge successes and opportunities to improve activities and entitlements.

Challenges

- A volatile political and security environment makes planning difficult.
- A lack of funding to support livelihood activities, including those agricultural-based, is particularly concerning as it affects attainment of refugees' self-reliance.

Donors

USA, Japan, France