Highlights

- With an operational presence in Luanda, Dundo and Lóvua, WFP continues to work to ensure that refugees from Kasai are able to meet their basic food and nutrition requirements.
- At present, the capacities of the Government and partners to maintain an integrated food security and nutrition response are not yet significantly compromised by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- WFP will maintain its focus on refugee response and the provision of technical assistance in the areas of nutrition, supply chain management, vulnerability analysis and mapping (VAM), and emergency preparedness and response (EPR).
- WFP COVID-19 Cargo Air Service has been established between Luanda and Johannesburg. The first cargo for Angola has been dispatched to Luanda on 28 July.

Situation Update

- As of 27 July, according to UNHCR statistics, the active refugee population was at 9,276 (6,315 refugees residing in Lóvua settlement and the remaining urban refugees living in and around Dundo).
- The repatriation process, started by UNHCR in October 2019, has been suspended due to the current COVID-19 pandemic and associated travel restrictions.
- WFP Angola estimates that the number of food assistance beneficiaries will remain at around 6,500 in 2020.
- Apart from the refugee response, WFP Angola started supporting the Government on VAM, nutrition and supply chain management.

COVID-19

- As of 14 August, 1,815 COVID-19 cases and 83 deaths have been confirmed in the country.
- The exceptional temporary measures introduced by the Government to prevent the spread of COVID-19 (mandatory use of masks, reduced working hours, border closures) have been prolonged until 07 September.
- Luanda and the municipality of Cazengo (Cuanza Norte province) remain under a sanitary cordon. Vehicles with humanitarian aid and food items are allowed to enter.

WFP Response

- WFP’s activities in Angola are defined by the Interim Country Strategic Plan 2020-2022.
- In coordination with the United Nations (UN) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), WFP started providing food assistance to refugees after an official request for support from the Government in May 2017.
- In May 2019, WFP and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs signed a memorandum of understanding on technical cooperation for the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 (Zero Hunger) in the areas of nutrition, school feeding and VAM.
- In July 2020, WFP Angola signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Government of Angola and the World Bank on multi-year technical assistance projects in the areas of school feeding, VAM and early warning, and addressing malnutrition (which is worsening due to the current socio-economic impact of COVID-19) in the Luanda province.

In Numbers

- 312 mt of food assistance distributed in July 2020
- US$ 0 m cash-based transfers made
- US$ 1.87 m six-month net funding requirements
- 6,456 people assisted in July 2020

Food Assistance (Refugee Response in Lunda Norte)

- Regular food distributions are accompanied by social and behaviour change communication. The standard operating procedures have been adjusted to minimize the risk of spread of COVID-19.
- During the July distribution 6,456 beneficiaries
received 312 mt of food items (maize meal, beans, vegetable oil).
• WFP field monitor carries out distribution monitoring during food distribution and collects quarterly post-distribution monitoring (PDM) data through WFP’s cooperating partner to explore the effects of assistance on beneficiaries.
• Regular focus group discussions with refugee representatives and members of the Food Management Committee are held to gauge success and any opportunity to improve the activities and entitlements.
• According to the latest PDM data, during the period of six months (November 2019–May 2020), the proportion of households with poor Food Consumption Score has increased from 28 percent to 35 percent.
• Overall, 61 percent of households reported being completely satisfied with both the quality and quantity of food commodities provided by WFP. When asked what modality of assistance the families prefer, 88 percent chose food assistance because they believe money and food vouchers would not guarantee them access to the same quality and quantity of food.

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.

Technical Assistance

Vulnerability, Analysis and Mapping
• To promote inclusive and efficient food security analysis and reporting for evidence-based planning and programming, WFP works to build national capacity to analyze the food security and vulnerability situation.
• Since January 2020, WFP has been assisting the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in preparation of food security and nutrition assessments.
• A dedicated team of WFP experts is supporting the Government in the gathering and analysis of food security data and information, as well as the development of regular food security and nutrition reports. The data collection via call center has successfully started in July.
• WFP will interact with partners and stakeholders to revitalize the Food Security Working Group (FSWG) and assist in the review and collation of available data and information on food security at the national level through Integrated Context Analysis (ICA).

Nutrition

Food Fortification
• To reduce micronutrient deficiencies in the Angolan population and prevent stunting among children aged 6-23 months in selected areas, WFP Angola will support the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Chamber of Commerce and the Civil Office (Casa Civil).
• WFP’s assistance will be aimed at supporting staple food fortification, home fortification with micronutrient powders, and local production of specialized nutritious foods.
• WFP has started working with the Ministry of Health to assist in the development of a National Food Fortification Strategy and the establishment of a National Multisectoral Fortification Alliance.

Prevention of Acute Malnutrition and Treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM)
• In line with the recently signed MoU with the Government and the World Bank, WFP Angola will support provincial authorities of Luanda and partners in the COVID-19 nutrition response to improve quality and coverage of services for the screening, early detection, referral, prevention of acute malnutrition, and MAM treatment among children under five years old in Luanda province. The activities are planned to start in October 2020.
• This will be achieved through scaling up activities for community screening for 1.1 million children.
• WFP Angola will support the Ministry of Health, Provincial Directorate of Health and partners to deliver trainings on care for children with malnutrition to health providers and community health providers.
• In addition, WFP will procure ready-to-use supplementary food (RUSF) and anthropometric equipment.
• WFP will also work with the Government to promote social and behaviour change communication to improve and reinforce skills in infant-young child feeding (IYCF) practices, protective measures against COVID-19, and safe hygiene at family and community levels. Outreach services will also be provided through community mobilizers, health workers and partners to raise awareness and increase mothers’ and families’ capacity to recognize signs of acute malnutrition.
• Monitoring reports will be produced and circulated, as well as the final evaluation report with best practices and lessons learned.

School Feeding
• In line with the MoU between WFP, the Government and the World Bank, WFP will start working with the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Agriculture and provincial and municipal governments to develop a school feeding plan for the four drought-affected provinces of Cunene, Huíla, Cuando Cubango and Namibe based on locally produced and available food and products.
• In parallel, WFP will support the Government of Angola to develop a National School Feeding Policy to guide the implementation of the current school feeding programme.
In close coordination with partners WFP will map and review content, quality and capacities of monitoring and reporting of a national school feeding programme to develop an action plan for a reliable and timely monitoring, reporting and evaluation.

Emergency Preparedness and Response

- WFP plans to support national and sub-national authorities, including the Civil Protection office, on emergency preparedness and response, by strengthening their capacity to prepare and respond to shocks, including the current COVID-19 pandemic and recurrent droughts in the south of the country.
- Civil Protection Operational centres in the four provinces of Cunene, Huila, Cuando Cubango and Namibe will be established and equipped with office materials, computers, radios, maps etc.
- Civil Protection teams will receive necessary training in procurement, logistics planning, warehousing, transport, risks management, monitoring and evaluation, targeting, and reporting.

Supply Chain

- WFP supported a range of supply chain activities for COVID-19 emergency response, including development of quantification and budget of supplies for COVID-19 Emergency Response in 34 municipalities within the Project of Health Systems Strengthening, funded by the World Bank.

COVID-19 Air Cargo/Passenger Service

- The first humanitarian cargo to Angola has been dispatched to Luanda on 28 July.
- Regular flights between Johannesburg and Luanda are planned to start in August to ensure the continuity of humanitarian services.

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For further information, visit the Angola page on www.wfp.org/countries/angola

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