Angola is a resource-rich country that has made substantial economic and political progress since the end of civil war in 2002. With a new reform-oriented government, Angola now has a window of opportunity to begin a period of more inclusive and sustainable growth that supports equitable outcomes.

Apart from the humanitarian challenges that the country faces as the host of refugees and asylum-seekers, food insecurity, and undernutrition remain serious public health problems and are driven by a range of factors including poverty, limited dietary diversity, poor sanitation and hygiene conditions, and gender inequality. The food security situation has been further exacerbated by the drought in the southern part of the country in 2019/2020. Angola’s agricultural resources remain under-utilized, and the country is exposed to various risks related to climate change.

In Angola, WFP is working with the Government and a broad range of partners towards the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 2 (Zero Hunger) and 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).

**In Numbers**

- **194 mt** food assistance distributed in January to 6,740 DRC refugees in the province of Luanda Norte
- **228 mt** of supplementary foods procured for the COVID-19 acute malnutrition response in Luanda Province
- **US$ 3.21 million** six-month (March–August 2021) net funding requirements
- **4.8 million people** with insufficient food consumption (mVAM data from March 2021)

**Operational Updates**

**Refugee Response**
- Since March 2020, WFP has reduced the frequency of distributions to minimise COVID-19 risks. Increased ration was distributed in January to cover two months.

**Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping**
- The 2021 Rainy Season Monitoring Report prepared by WFP Angola indicated below average rainfall for the provinces of the coastal and central areas of Angola. The analysis is based on the data from WFP-VAM DataViz Platform (dataviz.vam.wfp.org). The comparison of rainfall data collected since 1981 indicates that the southwestern provinces experienced the worst drought in the last 40 years from November 2020 to January 2021.
- The latest results of the countrywide mVAM (mobile vulnerability analysis and mapping) assessment show that 4.8 million people in Angola have insufficient food consumption. At least 13 million people are using crisis or emergency livelihood coping strategies such as spending savings or reducing non-food expenses.
- At the beginning of March, WFP and partners will start the trainings of enumerators for the food security assessment in Cunene, Huila and Namibe.

In Cunene and Cuando Cubango WFP will support the establishment of provincial food security and nutrition working groups (FSNWG) and training for provincial government staff on food security and nutrition assessments. With additional funds, FSNWGs can also be established in Namibe and Huila.

**Community-Based Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM)**
- WFP continued to support the Ministry of Health and the Luanda Provincial Health Directorate in the prevention of acute malnutrition and treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) at the community level.
- The nutrition screening started in February 2021 and will cover 1.1 million children under 5.

**Photo:** Focus group discussion within the malnutrition project in Luanda province. **Photo credit:** WFP/Pedro Domingos
• 130 mt of ready-to-use supplementary food (RUSF) were received in February. In total, 228 mt have been received since the start of the project to be used for subsequent distributions to community agents and health units.

• Together with partners, WFP is developing materials on nutrition to reinforce the sensitisation activities during the screening and designing of social and behaviour change communication strategies, including through radio and community-based entities.

• To assess the knowledge of beneficiaries on nutrition, health and hygiene, focus group discussions with mothers and caregivers were organized in targeted municipalities.

• WFP supports the Luanda Provincial Health Directorate in monthly data collection and analysis.

• WFP plans to expand the CMAM project into 4 more municipalities to cover the whole province. For this, WFP will need additional USD 1.5 million for 12 months.

Food Fortification
• To reduce micronutrient deficiencies in the Angolan population and prevent stunting among children aged 6–23 months, WFP is working with the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Civil Office (Casa Civil). A food fortification strategy is being developed with the Government, and WFP is working with partners to establish a multi-sectoral food fortification alliance.

School Feeding
• WFP works with the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Agriculture, and other relevant partners to develop a school feeding operational plan for the provinces of Cunene, Huila, Cuando Cubango and Namibe, based on local and available foods and with the objective to move towards home-grown school feeding.

• The feasibility assessment is now ongoing and will determine two municipalities in each province to develop a locally appropriate school feeding plan.

• In parallel, WFP supports the Government in developing a National School Feeding Policy and facilitates the preparation for the Systems Approach for Better Education Results (SABER) workshop that will assess the existing national capacities on school feeding.

• WFP, in close coordination with partners, works to map and review monitoring and reporting capacities of the national school feeding programme.

• WFP plans to expand the project to other provinces in central and northern Angola. For this, additional USD 1.2 million is needed for two years.

Emergency Preparedness and Response
• WFP plans to support national and sub-national authorities, including the Civil Protection Office, strengthening their capacity to prepare and respond to shocks, including the recurrent droughts in the South.

Challenges
• Due to lack of funding for livelihood activities for refugees in Lunda Norte, many of them remain dependent on humanitarian assistance and cannot attain self-reliance.

• Lack of resources to support the Government in food fortification and emergency preparedness and response, as well as in the expansion of ongoing technical assistance projects, is a critical challenge for WFP’s efforts to build up national capacities for the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 2 (Zero Hunger).

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