



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Angola Country Brief April 2021

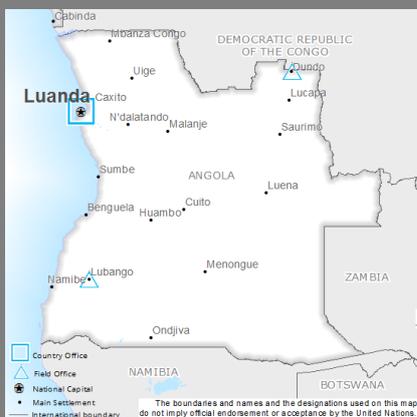


Operational Context

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, which are driven by a range of factors including poverty, limited dietary diversity, poor sanitation and hygiene conditions, and gender inequality. The food security situation is further exacerbated by a severe drought in the south and centre of Angola. A comparison of rainfall data since 1981 indicates that the southwestern provinces experienced the worst drought in the last 40 years in November 2020–January 2021.

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



Population (2018): **30.8 million**

2020 Human Development Index: **148 out of 189 countries**

Income Level: **Lower Middle**

2020 Global Hunger Index: **93 out of 107 countries**

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In Numbers

143 mt of food assistance distributed in March to **6,790 DRC refugees** in the province of Luanda Norte



244,000 children under 5 screened for malnutrition in Luanda Province in February–March, and around **6,500** received supplements for moderate acute malnutrition at the community level



US\$ 2.25 million six-month (May–October 2021) funding shortfall



6.7 million people with insufficient food consumption, according to mobile vulnerability analysis and mapping



Operational Updates

Refugee Response

- The latest post-distribution monitoring data indicate that 51 percent of refugee households have acceptable Food Consumption Scores (FCS), compared to 56 percent in October.
- At the same time, the proportion of households with poor FCS also decreased from 20 percent to 17 percent, with more families migrating to the borderline FCS category (31 percent in March 2021 compared to 24 percent in October 2020). For households headed by women, the share of households with poor FCS decreased from 24 percent to 12 percent.
- Many refugees still depend on food assistance. When faced with food insecurity, 67 percent of the households had to adopt some kind of negative coping mechanisms, with 18 percent of beneficiaries reporting resorting to high levels of coping strategies such as restricting food for adults, reducing the number of meals per day, reducing the portion size, and relying on less preferred and less expensive foods. The need to introduce livelihood support intervention in the settlement remains critical.

Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping

- According to the satellite data, an increase in precipitation was registered in March compared with February 2021. However, given the approaching end of the rainy season and the occurrence of locust pests in some areas, adequate recovery of agricultural production is unlikely.
- WFP and partners, including FAO and UNICEF, are supporting the food security and nutrition assessments in Cunene, Huila and Namibe as baseline for FRESAN project funded by EU. The data collection was completed at the beginning of May, and the data processing is now ongoing. The final report on the number of acute food-insecure people and current rates of acute malnutrition is expected in mid-July and will include IPC analysis.
- WFP is also working with the Government to organize a post-harvest assessment in Benguela and Huambo in July 2021.
- WFP will support the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in setting up a provincial Food Security and Nutrition Working Group in Cuando Cubango funded by SADC/RVAA programme. The group will be trained on food security and nutrition data collection, analysis and report writing, and other areas to monitor food security and nutrition trends.
- The latest results of the countrywide mVAM (mobile vulnerability analysis and mapping) show that around 6.7 million people in Angola have insufficient food consumption

Photo: Price monitoring at a market in Benguela province. April 2021

Interim Country Strategic Plan (2020–2022)

Strategic Outcomes/Activities	Six-Month Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Funding Shortfall (in USD)
Strategic Outcome 1 (Refugee Response) *	1.67 m	0.06 m
Unconditional food transfers	1.67 m	0.06 m
Strategic Outcomes 2 and 3 (Technical Assistance to the Government and Service Provision to Partners)	4.1 m	2.19 m
School Feeding	0.77 m	0.31 m
CMAM	1.76 m	0.75 m
VAM	0.62 m	0.24 m
Food Fortification	0.48 m	0.44 m
EPR	0.47 m	0.41 m
TOTAL	5.77 m	2.25 m

* Livelihood support activities under Strategic Outcome 1 are scheduled to start in July 2021, and the funding needs for July-December are USD 0.13 million.

Total figures include additional needs for planned activities.

(poor or borderline Food Consumption Scores). Around 15 million are using crisis or emergency livelihood-based coping strategies such as spending savings or reducing non-food expenses.

Community-Based Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM)

- Nutrition screening is ongoing in the targeted municipalities (Cacuaco, Cazenga, Kilambia Kiayi, Talatona, Viana) and will cover 1.1 million children under 5 over the project duration of one year. In February-March, 244,000 children were screened, of which almost 6,500 of them received supplementation for MAM, while 1,150 were referred to a health facility.
- Community health agents who are conducting the screening and administering treatment for uncomplicated cases were supported through supervision visits from WFP and partners.
- Together with partners, WFP is designing sensitization campaigns for vulnerable communities through radio, churches, and other community-level groups.
- In March, WFP and partners organized 11 focus group discussions with parents and caregivers to assess their knowledge on nutrition and relevant subjects. More than 120 beneficiaries participated. Many demonstrated limited knowledge on the importance of breastfeeding and infant and young child feeding practices, and WFP will tailor its sensitization activities accordingly.
- To support the national response to the current drought, WFP also plans to assist provincial and municipal authorities in the preparation of immediate nutrition emergency response in the south and centre of Angola.
- In April, WFP visited the provinces of Benguela, Huambo and Huila to assess the nutritional situation and impacts of the current drought, map the needs of relevant institutions and further engage with government and partners on possible additional support.

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).

- WFP supports the National Directorate of Public Health (DNSP) in the design of a National Food Fortification Strategy and establishment of a Food Fortification Alliance. To facilitate coordination with partners, WFP will also assist in the establishment of a working group that will guide the discussions.

School Feeding

- WFP works with the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Agriculture, MASFAMU 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.
- Based on the operational plan, WFP will support the Government in the implementation of a school feeding pilot project in the targeted municipalities. WFP assisted in the establishment of a task force comprising representatives from relevant provincial authorities to accompany the implementation.
- 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 take place during the last week of May. The workshop will gather national and sub-national partners to assess the existing national capacities. The results will reflect a joint understanding on the main issues and will prepare the basis for targeted cooperation programmes.

Emergency Preparedness and Response

- In the southern and central provinces of the country, 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 current drought in the south.
- WFP will be providing technical assistance on supply chain management, targeting, monitoring and evaluation, vulnerability analysis, and overall operations management.
- WFP is also discussing with the International Federation of Red Cross how best to strengthen the capacity of the Angola Red Cross to prepare and respond to emergencies, including recurrent droughts.

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).
- WFP is working with partners to mobilize the necessary resources to support the national counterparts in their response to the current drought which is affecting the food security and nutrition of vulnerable communities in the centre and south of the country.

Donors

Government of Angola, Government of Japan, Government of the United States of America, World Bank