In Numbers

1.58 million people in acute food insecurity in southwestern Angola

US$ 6.9 million six-month (November 2022 – April 2023) funding shortfall

20,810 people received assistance in the drought-affected areas, including commodity vouchers and nutrition supplements

6,547 DRC refugees received food assistance

Operational Updates

Crisis Response

Drought Response in Huila and Cunene

- WFP continues commodity voucher distributions for vulnerable families affected by the drought in southern Angola. 20,678 people were assisted in Huila and Cunene provinces in October.

- WFP started the Community Management Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) programme in Huila province. 2,643 children aged 6 to 59 months were screened and 132 of them were admitted to the programme which covers four municipalities – Gambos, Humpata, Chicomba and Chibia.

- Families of malnourished children admitted to the programme will also receive a commodity voucher to ensure better treatment outcomes. WFP conducted an assessment in Namibe and Huila provinces to identify retailers that will provide food commodities in exchange for vouchers.

Refugee Assistance in Lunda Norte

- In October, 6,547 refugees from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) residing in the Lovua refugee settlement in Lunda Norte received food assistance (225 MT). The food basket included maize meal, beans and vegetable oil.

- WFP continued the preparations for the first conditional food distribution expected in December for the asset creation livelihood programme in Lovua municipality.

- WFP started the development of a targeting strategy for Lovua settlement to classify households based on the level of vulnerability, facilitate the introduction of livelihood support as an alternative to food assistance and ensure WFP’s limited resources are utilized in the most effective manner for the most vulnerable people.

Operational Context

Located in southwestern Africa, Angola is a resource-rich country that has made substantial economic and political progress since the end of the civil war in 2002. However, Angola’s agricultural resources remain underutilized, and the country is exposed to various risks related to climate change with cyclical droughts affecting the southwest of the country. Rainfall shortages in the south and centre of the country significantly reduce agricultural production, which is the main source of food for rural households. The generalized rise in food prices also restricts households’ purchasing power. 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.

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).

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Photo: Community screening in Gambos municipality, Huila province. October 2022 © WFP Angola /Andrea Scimone
WFP also assisted the Provincial Directorate of Health in the distribution of 270 boxes of Ready-to-Use Supplementary Food (RUSF) in Luanda province.

Service Provision

Last-Mile Delivery of Medical Supplies

- WFP started dispatches of tuberculosis medicines and test kits to health units in Benguela and Cuanza Sul provinces.

- In the first two weeks of October, WFP’s warehouse in Benguela received new product arrivals for all three programmes - HIV, Malaria and TB, a total of 64,942 items.

- The third cycle of medical distributions for HIV, TB, and Malaria in Benguela and Cuanza Sul provinces is expected to commence in November after the finalization of the Distribution Plan (DP) by the United Nations Department of Programme (UNDP).

Challenges

- The acute food security situation in southern Angola remains of concern, due to the compound effects of consecutive years of dry weather conditions, including in 2022.

- In November, WFP plans to finish the distributions of commodity vouchers for vulnerable families in the most drought-affected areas of Huila and Cunene provinces. Three distribution cycles were conducted since April 2022 in close coordination with the Civil Protection Commission. No funding is available to continue this operation beyond November, while needs on the ground still exist and many communities will preserve high levels of vulnerability during the coming lean season.

Donors

- Angola, France, Japan, Multilateral donors (SRAC), UN Central Emergency Response Fund, United States of America, World Bank, United Nations Development Programme, United Kingdom

Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping

- WFP supported the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in data processing and compilation of the final report for the post-harvest assessment carried out in August 2022 in Huila, Cunene, and Namibe provinces. The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) workshop was organised in Cunene on October 17-28. 46 government officials from Ministry of Agriculture, Civil Protection Commission and Ministry of Social Action received the training on IPC Acute Food Insecurity data analysis. The IPC final report is expected to be published in November.

Nutrition

- A total of 31 health workers were trained by WFP in six health units of Viana municipality as part of the technical assistance to the Luanda Provincial Health Directorate.