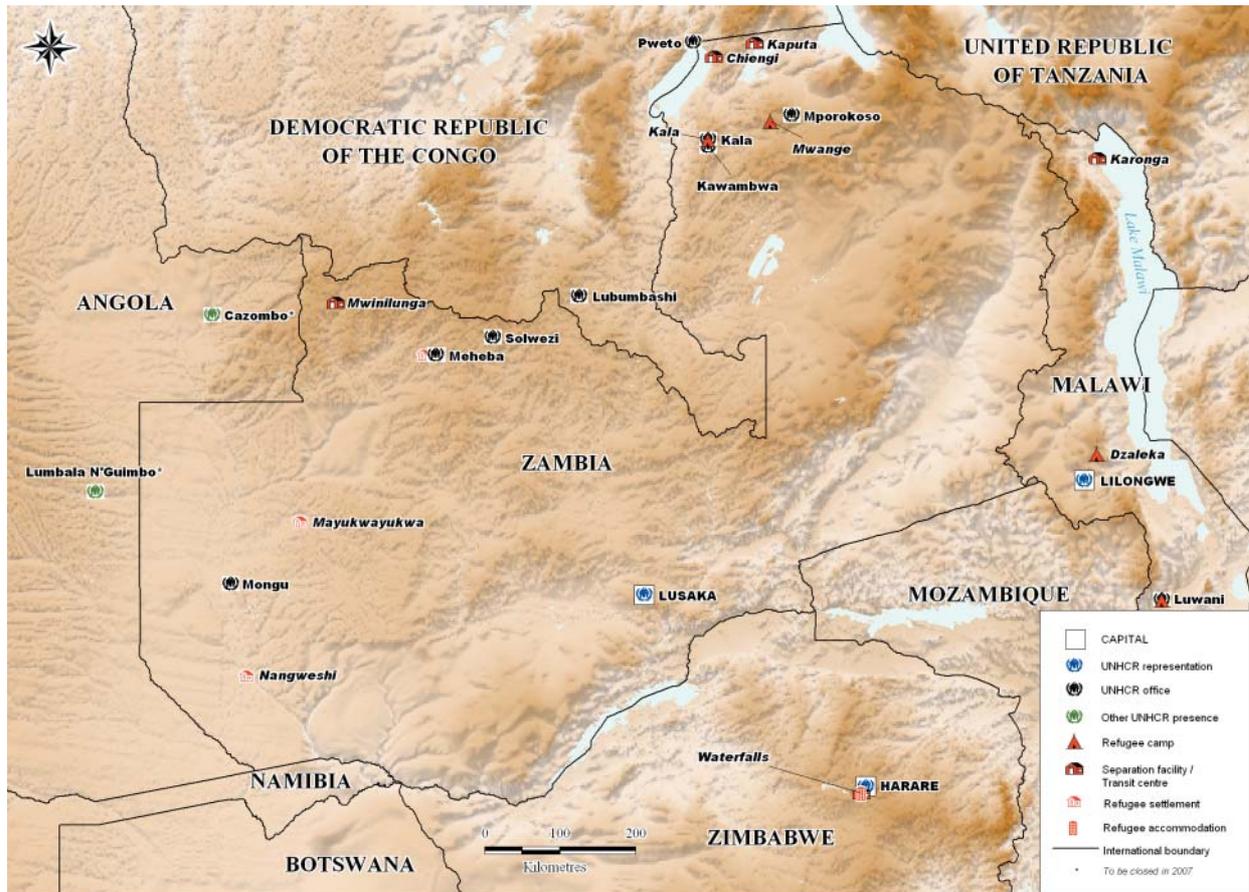


Zambia



Working environment

The context

The Government of Zambia has been generous to refugees and asylum-seekers, and is making efforts to enact less restrictive legislation which will better cater for their needs. The refugee population in the country continued to decline in 2005 and 2006 with the repatriation of large numbers of Angolan refugees. Organized repatriation to Angola ended in December 2005, but UNHCR and the Governments of Angola and Zambia have agreed to extend it to the end of 2006. Some 5,000 refugees are expected to have repatriated in 2006.

In tandem with the decrease in the Angolan refugee population in rural areas, camp closures and consolidation will begin in 2006 and continue into 2007. This measure aims at settling those refugees who remain in Zambia in areas or communities where land or opportunities for income generation are available to them, thereby making it easier for them to integrate locally. In 2007, UNHCR will provide targeted food assistance only to vulnerable Angolan refugees.

There have not been as many returns to the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) as anticipated. Some

3,000 DRC refugees have returned spontaneously, but many more remain in Zambia and do not seem eager to return home. This can be attributed to the fact that although the DRC seems to be moving towards peace and stability, many issues still remain to be resolved. However, hopes are mounting that after the second round of presidential elections enduring stability will enable 20,000 DRC refugees in camps in northern Zambia to repatriate in 2007.

The needs

UNHCR's planning in Zambia was guided by surveys and the active participation of refugees, the Government, UN agencies and NGOs. The main needs identified were food for refugees in camps; opportunities for employment, which remain limited due to exorbitant labour permit fees; the lack of fertile land; health care, including referrals from camp clinics to hospitals in cities; voluntary testing and counselling for HIV/AIDS; water supply; education for children; scarcity of firewood and the risks for women in collecting it; and, overall, protection of women, children and adolescents.

Total requirements: USD 9,794,885



The Nangweshi camp clinic treats both refugees and Zambians living nearby as part of a Zambia Initiative to improve conditions for everyone in refugee-impacted areas. *UNHCR / J. Redden*

Main objectives

- Promote durable solutions: repatriation for the majority of refugees, local integration for refugees who decide to remain indefinitely in Zambia and resettlement for those for whom neither local integration nor repatriation are viable options.
- Help the Government of Zambia enact less restrictive refugee legislation that addresses the new and evolving needs of refugees in Zambia.
- Strengthen collaboration among local stakeholders to give refugees better access to national social services.
- Advocate that refugee matters are consistently integrated into national, regional and community-level policies and public expenditure plans, especially for the remaining Angolan refugees.
- Seek long-term solutions for the phenomenon of mixed flows while safeguarding the right of admission and protection of refugees seeking asylum in Zambia.
- Ensure that the special needs of women, the elderly and children are included in all protection and assistance programmes.

Key targets for 2007

- 20,000 DRC refugees and 600 Burundian refugees are repatriated.
- 14,000 Angolan refugees are locally integrated in western and north-western Zambia.
- 1,200 refugees are resettled in third countries.
- A review of the current refugee law is completed, progress is made towards enacting less restrictive legislation, and Government of Zambia's reservations to the 1951 Refugee Convention are lifted.
- The programming and logistics capacity of government institutions is strengthened in preparation for the handover of assistance operations to them.
- Protection is provided to 5,200 urban refugees.
- The specific needs of women, children, the elderly and other vulnerable groups are focused on prevention of sexual and gender-based violence and HIV/AIDS.
- Health care, education and social assistance are provided to refugees with specific needs among the urban refugee population, including those in detention.

Planning figures

Type of population	Origin	Jan 2007		Dec 2007	
		Total in country	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Total in country	Of whom assisted by UNHCR
Refugees	DRC	42,250	42,250	30,500	30,500
	Angola	26,450	26,450	14,450	14,450
	Various	90,010	10,010	89,500	9,500
Total		158,710	78,710	134,450	54,450

Strategy and activities

The Office will find solutions for refugees through repatriation, sustainable local integration and protection and assistance.

The main thrust will be to help the Government of Zambia to protect refugees and asylum-seekers and enact more refugee-friendly legislation. Government officials and implementing partner staff will be trained in protection, while programmes on refugee law will be run in academic institutions and local communities and targeted at selected groups — especially legislators and senior government officials. UNHCR will play an active role in the Sector Advisory Group on Social Protection established under the National Development Plan to coordinate and monitor programmes targeting refugees and host communities.

Implementation arrangements will be reoriented towards repatriation and sustainable local integration. Implementing partners in the north of the country will be geared towards repatriation of DRC refugees. In western Zambia, building the capacity of government ministries to serve the needs of the remaining Angolan refugees will be a priority. UNHCR will bolster the efforts of the Zambian Government to arrive at a solution for the Angolan refugees who have lived in Zambia for more than 30 years and wish to remain in the country. Resettlement will be limited to refugees with special protection and durable solutions needs.

Constraints

Under prevailing refugee legislation, refugees are unable to acquire Zambian citizenship or obtain permanent residence status. UNHCR will work closely with the Government to enact laws to allow refugees who have lived in Zambia for decades to obtain residency or citizenship status. Initiatives in this regard begun in 2006 will be pursued in 2007.

UNHCR and the Government of Zambia will collaborate to resolve the challenges the Zambia Initiative has encountered. Continued funding for the Zambia Initiative is paramount if this project is to achieve its goals of economic and social empowerment of refugees and poverty reduction among the local Zambian communities.

The unpredictable situation in the DRC may derail plans for large-scale repatriation after the second round of elections scheduled in late 2006.

The stalemate in the situation of Rwandan refugees who have chosen to remain in Zambia despite enormous repatriation efforts remains a challenge.

Organization and implementation

UNHCR presence

Number of offices	7
Total staff	85
International	14
National	56
UNVs	7
JPOs	1
Deployees	7

Coordination

In 2007, UNHCR in Zambia, in collaboration with the Commissioner of Refugees in the Ministry of Home Affairs, will coordinate country-wide refugee assistance operations. The Office will enter into partnerships with nine implementing partners in Zambia: seven international NGOs, three government departments and two local NGOs. UNHCR will also work closely with WFP and other UN agencies.

As part of the UN Country Team, UNHCR will liaise with other UN agencies on issues of common interest and participate in the UN theme groups on HIV/AIDS and gender. The Office will also conduct joint programmes with UN agencies to improve targeted development assistance to refugee-affected areas and develop other projects along the lines of the Zambia Initiative to promote self-reliance among vulnerable populations, including refugees. The Office will also promote action towards the Millennium Development Goals.

Partners

Implementing partners

Government: Commissioner for Refugees, Ministry of Home Affairs, District Water Department, District Health Department.

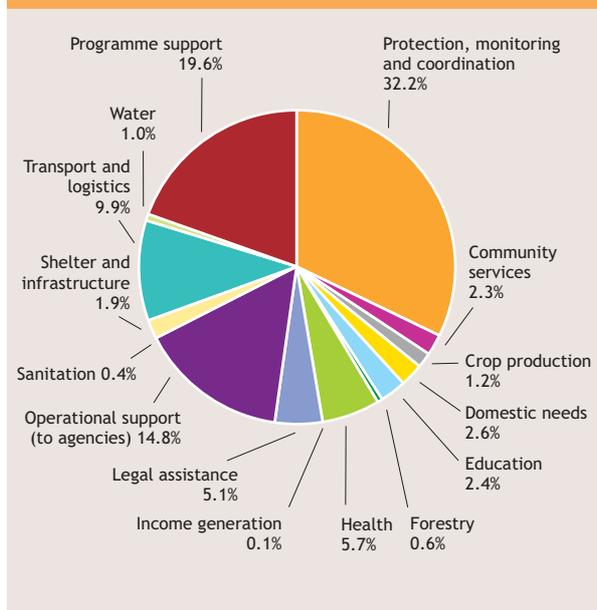
NGOs: *Afrika Aktion Hilfe*, Africa Humanitarian Action, Africare, Christian Outreach Relief and Development, Hodi, Lutheran World Federation, World Vision International, Young Men's Christian Association, Zambia Red Cross Society.

Operational partners

Others: FAO, IFRC, IOM, UN, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF, WFP.

Budget (USD)		
Activities and services	Annual Programme Budget	
	2006	2007
Protection, monitoring and coordination	3,812,818	3,859,976
Community services	272,902	184,298
Crop production	146,955	117,036
Domestic needs	309,075	59,461
Education	287,051	367,340
Fisheries	0	10,000
Forestry	73,632	46,733
Health	670,464	529,953
Income generation	17,094	81,788
Livestock	0	10,000
Legal assistance	601,837	420,712
Operational support (to agencies)	1,752,248	1,165,153
Sanitation	46,317	24,490
Shelter and infrastructure	226,293	23,088
Transport and logistics	1,176,112	675,109
Water	120,020	140,138
Total operations	9,512,818	7,715,274
Programme support	2,323,341	2,079,611
Total	11,836,159	9,794,885

2006 Annual Programme Budget by sector



2007 Annual Programme Budget by sector

