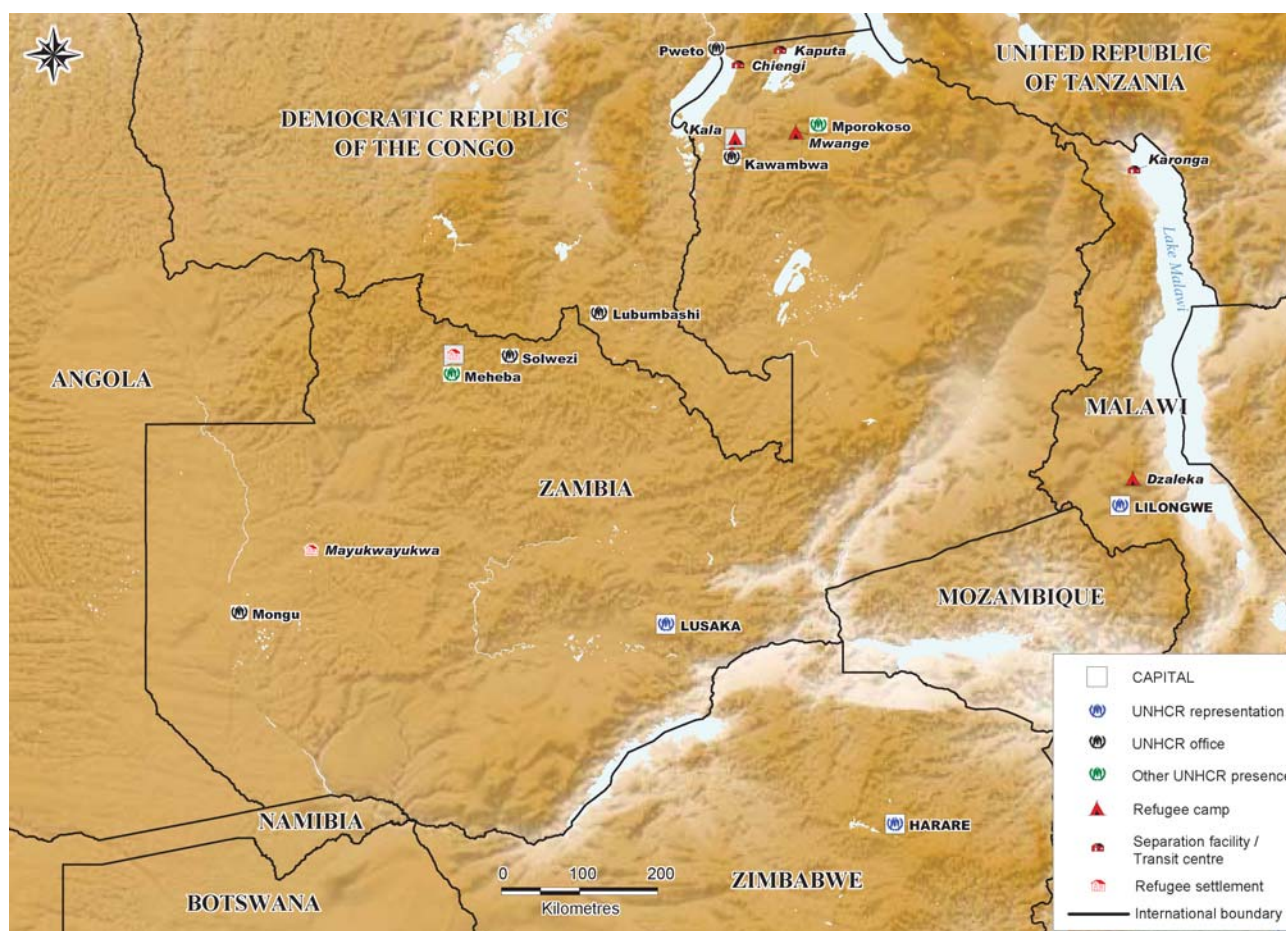


Zambia



Operational highlights

- UNHCR helped more than 7,300 Congolese refugees return to various areas in Katanga Province in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).
- In partnership with the Government, UNHCR completed the registration and profiling of self-settled Angolan refugees and urban refugees.
- Free anti-retroviral treatment is now available to refugees and asylum-seekers.
- In 2007, the Office referred 700 refugees for resettlement from Zambia, and 447 refugees departed for resettlement countries.

Working environment

Despite being one of the least developed countries in the world, the Republic of Zambia has, for more than four decades, provided refuge to hundreds of thousands of displaced people due to strife in neighbouring countries.

Today, Zambia hosts some 112,900 refugees. The majority – about 65 per cent – are from the DRC, and 27 per cent are from Angola. The refugees reside in settlements, camps and in rural and urban areas. Those living in official settlements have access to land for cultivation.

Persons of concern

Type of population	Origin	Total	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Per cent female	Per cent under 18
Refugees	DRC	55,400	38,300	49	56
	Angola	40,800	18,700	57	52
	Rwanda	4,000	1,900	45	44
	Somalia	1,700	20	47	49
	Burundi	1,400	270	48	48
	Various	9,600	100	-	-
	Asylum-seekers	Various	30	-	-
Total		112,930	59,290		

An estimated 50,000 refugees, mainly from Angola and the DRC, have spontaneously settled and dispersed across the country. A registration exercise in 2007, however, indicated that only about 8,700 refugees of the 22,000 registered during the 2001 census remain in the country. Although official figures have yet to be released by the Government, this major reduction may be attributed to spontaneous returns by some refugees to Angola and the integration of others into Zambian society through marriage. According to the preliminary findings of the exercise, some 65 per cent of the registered refugees expressed their willingness to return home with UNHCR's assistance.

The protection environment in Zambia has remained stable over the years. In March 2007, the Strengthening Protection Capacity Project was launched to improve the legislative and administrative framework related to refugee issues. The Project also aims to strengthen the protection capacities of the Government and civil society.

Achievements and impact

Main objectives

UNHCR's main objectives were to promote durable solutions; help the Government of Zambia enact refugee legislation in line with international standards; strengthen collaboration with local stakeholders to give refugees better access to national social services; and advocate that refugee issues are integrated into national, regional and community policies. The Office also aims to find long-term solutions for the problems arising from mixed migration flows while safeguarding the rights of admission and protection of asylum-seekers. Finally, it seeks to ensure that the specific needs of women, the elderly and children are included in all protection and assistance programmes.

Protection and solutions

UNHCR is facilitating an ongoing dialogue between the Government of Zambia, donor countries and UN partners on durable solutions for the remaining refugee population in Zambia.

Following the signing of an agreement in November 2006, the return of Congolese refugees to Katanga Province in the DRC began in May 2007. The target of 20,000 refugee returns in 2007 was not met, due to security incidents in the areas of return and logistical problems related to road conditions in the DRC. By the end of the year, more than 7,300 camp-based refugees had repatriated to the DRC.

In July 2007, UNHCR and the office of the Zambian Commissioner for Refugees organized a workshop on the local integration of Angolan refugees for 25 Parliamentary officials. The session raised awareness of the need for new refugee legislation and of the positive contributions refugees make to their communities. Despite continuing sensitivities, the Government may consider local integration, especially for Angolan refugees with strong links to Zambia through marriage and ethnic affinity, under existing immigration laws and regulations.

In 2007, UNHCR Zambia referred 700 refugees for resettlement in third countries, against a target figure of 800 persons. During the year, a total of 447 refugees departed for resettlement.

Activities and assistance

Community services: In 2007, 26 incidents of sexual and gender-based violence were reported in the Kala camp. The incidence of such violence in camps was reduced by projects to sensitize refugees to the issue and the introduction of mobile courts. A recent survey indicated that more than 80 per cent of refugees were cognizant of the need to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence.

Crop production: Refugees in settlements had access to 2.5 hectares of farmland per family, allowing about 70 per cent of them to farm and improve their food security and livelihoods.

Domestic needs and household support: Sanitary materials were distributed to all women and adolescent girls. UNHCR distributed 100 metric tonnes of soap to refugees in the camps and gave some 1,100 jerry cans to 700 Congolese returnee families. In Meheba and Mayukwayukwa settlements the Office provided non-food items to those with specific needs.

Education: In Mwange and Kala refugee camp, respectively, 76 and 78 per cent of primary-age children attended school in 2007. School enrolment rates for Meheba and Mayukwayukwa were 100 per cent and 75 per cent, respectively. UNHCR provided material and financial support to all community schools. Not all children could attend school; some did not have school uniforms and others had to perform household duties.

Food: Food rations were provided to all repatriating refugees at the departure transit centres. In Mayukwayukwa and Meheba settlements monthly food rations were distributed to arriving refugees.

Forestry: UNHCR distributed 22,500 tree seedlings to refugees and conducted an environmental management workshop for Congolese refugees.

Health and nutrition: UNHCR continued voluntary counselling and testing services in all camps and settlements, distributed condoms and conducted HIV and AIDS awareness campaigns. Refugees living with HIV and AIDS received free anti-retroviral therapy. All pregnant women received antenatal services. The crude mortality rate stood at 2 per 100 per month, which is within acceptable levels. The Office ensured total immunization coverage for measles and other childhood diseases, and distributed 17,000 mosquito nets. Finally, UNHCR provided medical screening and escorts for all repatriation convoys and ensured that returning refugees with chronic medical conditions received medical care.

Income generation: In Kala refugee camp, some 40 refugees attended electronics repair and tailoring courses. Some 50 households participated in fish farming courses.

Legal assistance: UNHCR supported mobile courts for legal representation and counselling services. Meeting the legal assistance needs of refugee women and children was a priority. Through a registration and profiling exercise, more than 4,700 urban refugees and 8,600 spontaneously settled refugees received identity cards. The exercise also helped to build the registration capacity of the Government office responsible for refugees.

Operational support: UNHCR covered the operational costs of implementing partners, including staff development expenditures, to strengthen their ability to deliver effective assistance to refugees.

Sanitation: There were no outbreaks of water-borne disease in refugee locations. UNHCR constructed some 150 latrines and 12 refuse pits in transit centres and way stations. Latrine coverage in all the refugee camps and settlements was improved to almost 80 per cent.

Shelter and other infrastructure: Two transit centres were rehabilitated to provide capacity for up to 600 returnees at a time. Four way stations were constructed and 206 kilometres of road, including two bridges, were improved.

Transport and logistics: More than 90 per cent of the total number of vehicles was operational. Non-food items were transported from Lusaka to field offices for distribution.

Water: UNHCR provided an average of 19 litres of potable water per person per day in the camps and settlements, mostly from bore holes and protected wells. It also installed 5,000-litre water tanks in transit centres.

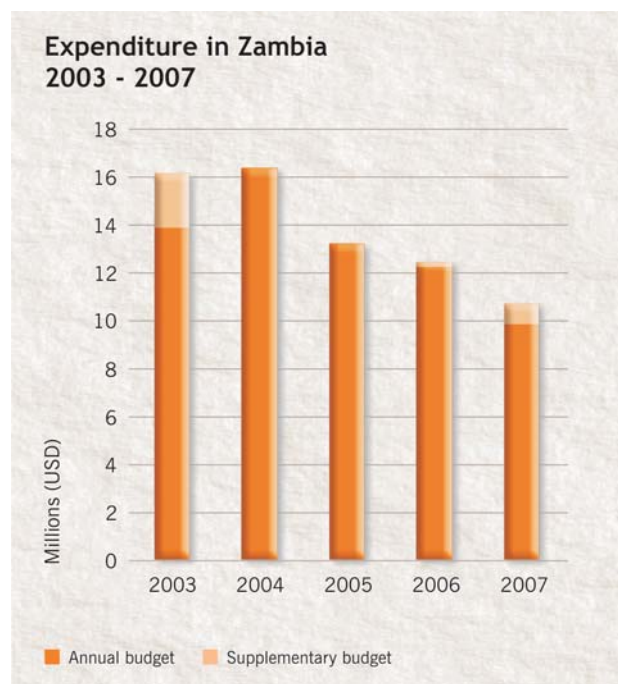
Constraints

The future of the remaining Angolan refugees in Zambia remains uncertain. Due to their long stay in Zambia and strong links with Zambian society, local integration seems to be the most appropriate solution for many of this group. However, several thousands have expressed interest in returning home – even though repatriation to Angola concluded in March 2007. Arrangements will be made for their repatriation in 2008. Nevertheless, UNHCR has continued discussions with the Government on the granting of residence permits to some of these refugees.

Financial information

UNHCR's annual programme in Zambia was fully funded in 2007. The Zambia operation also benefited from additional resources within the framework of the Strengthening Protection Capacity Project.

The expenditure in Zambia decreased in 2005 after the conclusion of the repatriation operation for Angolans in 2003-2004. Due to the decline of the population of concern, the expenditure gradually decreased between 2005 and 2007.





UNHCR/S. Lubuku

Congolese refugees in Mwange camp meet with UNHCR and government officials.

Organization and implementation

Management

UNHCR Zambia managed operations from the Representation office in Lusaka and from two sub-offices and two field offices located close to the refugee camps and settlements. The offices were run by 63 staff, 12 international and 51 national staff.

Working with others

UNHCR worked with 15 implementing partners, 10 being government ministries. WFP provided food rations for camp-based refugees with specific needs and during repatriation movements. IOM ensured safe and dignified repatriation movements, and the ICRC continued to assist with family tracing.

Overall assessment

Although most objectives were achieved, plans to assist the repatriation of 20,000 refugees mainly to the DRC were not fulfilled due to insecurity in major return areas and unforeseen logistical challenges. As a result, only 37 per cent of the planned number could return.

Partners

Implementing partners

Government agencies: Commissioner of Refugees (Ministry of Home Affairs), Ministry of Health, Ministry of Water Affairs, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Community Development and Social Services

NGOs: *Aktion Afrika Hilfe*, Christian Outreach for Relief and Development, HODI, Zambian Red Cross Society, World Vision International

Operational partners

Others: IFRC, IOM, UNAIDS, WFP, UNICEF, WHO, UNDP and UNFPA

Budget, income and expenditure (USD)

	Final budget	Income from contributions	Other funds available	Total funds available	Total expenditure
Annual budget	10,684,622	2,991,335	7,405,240	10,396,575	9,825,275
DRC SB	1,139,097	0	905,430	905,430	905,430
Total	11,823,719	2,991,335	8,310,670	11,302,005	10,730,705

Note: Supplementary programmes do not include seven per cent support costs that are recovered from contributions to meet indirect costs for UNHCR. Income from contributions includes contributions earmarked at the country level. Other funds available include transfers from unearmarked and broadly earmarked contributions, opening balance and adjustments.

Financial Report (USD)

Expenditure breakdown	Current year's projects			Previous years' projects
	Annual budget	Supplementary budget	Total	Annual and supplementary budgets
Protection, monitoring and coordination	3,484,569	39,097	3,523,666	0
Community services	167,596	19,041	186,636	18,264
Crop production	41,188	0	41,188	29,852
Domestic needs and household support	99,179	5,433	104,613	0
Education	350,195	739	350,934	96,104
Food	0	6,687	6,687	0
Forestry	30,396	3,042	33,438	6,802
Health and nutrition	410,035	38,121	448,156	147,052
Income generation	11,352	0	11,352	6,848
Legal assistance	529,152	55,509	584,661	56,536
Operational support (to agencies)	1,121,881	113,958	1,235,839	226,760
Sanitation	11,734	30,008	41,743	10,499
Shelter and infrastructure	147,129	66,699	213,828	21,971
Transport and logistics	624,128	391,659	1,015,788	60,763
Water	49,215	10,424	59,639	30,202
Instalments with implementing partners	799,107	125,013	924,121	(711,653)
Sub-total operational activities	7,876,857	905,430	8,782,287	0
Programme support	1,948,418	0	1,948,418	0
Total expenditure	9,825,275	905,430	10,730,705	0
Cancellation on previous years' expenditure				(68,326)
Instalments with implementing partners				
Payments made	2,710,245	356,433	3,066,679	
Reporting received	(1,911,138)	(231,420)	(2,142,558)	
Balance	799,107	125,013	924,121	
Previous years' report				
Instalments with implementing partners				
Outstanding 1st January				1,585,926
Reporting received				(711,653)
Refunded to UNHCR				(80,283)
Adjustments				(940)
Balance				793,049