

Zimbabwe

August 2024

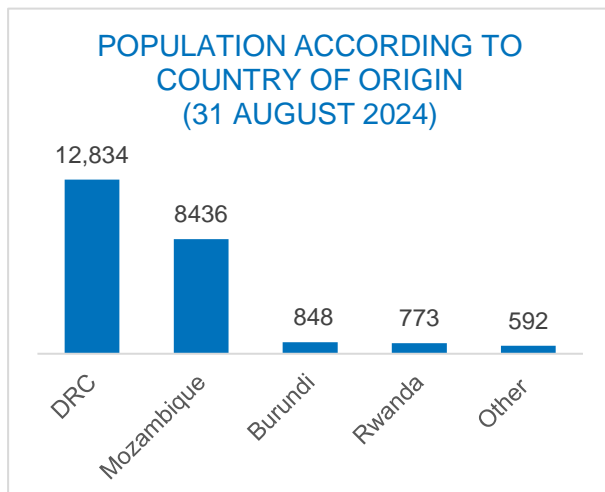
The operation is preparing 100 hectares donated by the Government of Zimbabwe to expand agricultural activities for refugees, asylum-seekers, and the host community.

During January-August 2024, 1,017 refugees departed through the resettlement program, while 651 were submitted for resettlement to Australia, Canada and USA.

UNHCR is piloting a clean energy project in Tongogara Refugee Settlement and Harare, which uses organic waste to produce energy for cooking purposes.

POPULATION UNHCR SERVES

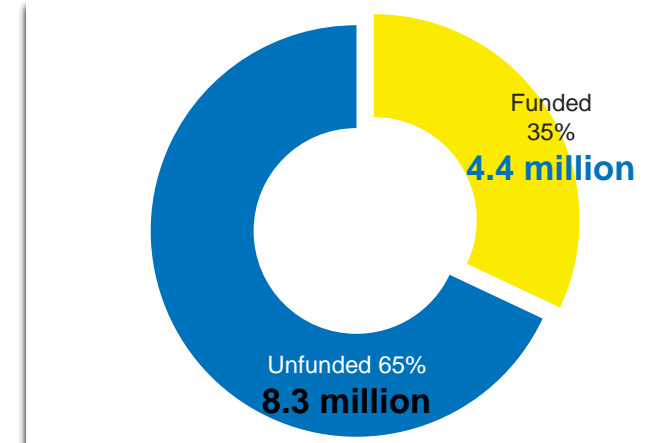
23,483



FUNDING (AS OF 31 AUGUST 2024)

USD 12.7 million

requested for the Zimbabwe operation



UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff: 39

- 27 National Staff
- 5 International Staff
- 7 Affiliate Workforce [3 Natl / 4 Intl]

Offices:

- 1 branch office in Harare
- 1 field office in Chipinge



Working with Partners

- UNHCR participates in the United Nations Country Team, Programme Management Team, Operations Management Team, UN Communications Group, Protection Cluster and the Humanitarian Country Team, as well as the Security Management Team in Zimbabwe.
- UNHCR's implementing partners are the Department of Social Development of the Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare, World Vision International and Terre Des Hommes.
- UNHCR's operational partners are the World Food Programme (WFP), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), The Regional Psychosocial Support Initiatives (REPSSI), Community Organisation for Poverty Alleviation in Zimbabwe (COPAZ), Chipinge College of Horticulture, Zimbabwe Red Cross (ZRC), and Zimbabwe Council of Churches (ZCC).

Main Activities

Protection

- UNHCR supports the Government of Zimbabwe, through the Office of the Commissioner for Refugees, to provide international protection and assistance to refugees, asylum-seekers, and other persons we serve.
- UNHCR provides capacity building and training to the Zimbabwean authorities and civil society on refugee protection in close coordination with relevant partners.
- UNHCR works closely with the Government in various national United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) thematic groups, which is aligned with the National Development Strategy for Zimbabwe (2022-2026).
- UNHCR directly implements some child protection and gender-based violence (GBV) prevention, mitigation and response activities following the revised GBV Policy in 2020.
- UNHCR works closely with the Registrar General's office to issue United Nations Convention Travel Documents to refugees and other civil registration documentation.
- UNHCR advocates for the inclusion of refugees and asylum seekers in national policies and programmes.
- UNHCR conducts border and prison monitoring while advocating for alternatives to detention.
- The Government of Zimbabwe has initiated a review process of the Refugees Act in line with their GRF pledge and UNHCR has made written submissions. UNHCR remains engaged with government throughout the process.

Education

- Refugees and asylum-seekers are included in the national education system. UNHCR provides support with school fees and learning materials for 644 (290 female; 354 male) children at early childhood development, 2,070 (977 female; 1,093 male) at primary and 659 (313 female; 346 male) at lower secondary levels.

- UNHCR supports refugees (20 students) to access tertiary learning opportunities in Zimbabwe's public universities through the DAFI scholarship programme. In addition, UNHCR, together with the Government of Italy and partners, is supporting refugee students to attend Italian universities. Students are also benefiting from scholarships offered by the Mastercard Foundation and Duolingo.
- UNHCR in partnership with the private sector (ProFuturo) is providing digital learning to refugee children in Tongogara Refugee Settlement and children from three schools in the host community. The project has reached a total of 4946 children, with the aim of reducing the technological/digital divide between rural and urban children.

Health

- UNHCR and partners provide primary health care services to all asylum-seekers, refugees and the host community living in and around Tongogara Refugee Settlement. The clinic offers 24-hour outpatient and referral services. Screening, treatment, and referrals to major government hospitals are free. Reproductive health and HIV services are also provided.
- In line with the Global Compact on Refugees, Tongogara clinic is partially integrated into the national health system. Patients who require further care are referred to district, provincial and national hospitals, where refugees have access to health care services on a par with citizens.
- The district health authorities support health staff in the settlement clinic with capacity-building programmes.
- While Africa CDC and WHO have declared Mpox a public health emergency of international concern, in Zimbabwe no case was reported in August 2024. At Tongogara Refugee Settlement, UNHCR's health partner has started information dissemination and surveillance.

Food Security and Nutrition

- UNHCR works with its food security partner and the World Food Programme (WFP) to ensure refugees and asylum-seekers meet their food and nutritional needs.
- To ensure adequate food security for the settlement population, refugees and asylum-seekers receive monthly cash assistance from WFP. Cash distribution allows refugees and asylum-seekers to choose their dietary requirements. Some 12,275 refugees and asylum-seekers in the settlement receive monthly cash and in-kind food assistance.
- Newly arrived asylum-seekers are assisted with in-kind food commodities from WFP during the first three months in the settlement before being moved to monthly food distribution lists.

Water and Sanitation

- UNHCR, with its WASH partner, works to provide at least 20 litres of water per person per day in Tongogara Refugee Settlement. This is delivered through a water reticulation system supplied by boreholes with solarized pumps as well as some boreholes with manual hand pumps.
- Water quality tests are also conducted monthly to ensure that the persons we serve, access potable water.

- To improve sanitation coverage in the settlement, UNHCR and its WASH partner are working in partnership with households to construct additional family latrines to reduce the risk of open defecation and spread of diarrheal diseases.
- To prevent the spread of communicable diseases, additional permanent handwashing facilities have been constructed at the local clinic and the two schools in the Settlement.
- Community-Based Hygiene Promoters promote Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) measures at the household level such as handwashing before eating/preparing food or breastfeeding and after latrine use and safe food handling.
- UNHCR, with its partner, is piloting new approaches to Real-Time Monitoring (RTM) of WASH operations, using Information and Communications Technology (ICT) such as Long-Range Wide Area Network (LoRaWAN) sensors. The system gathers information on water tank levels, borehole pumping levels, and flow rates and uploads it to a web-based dashboard in real-time.
- Refugees are using tablets with mapping and Mobile Data Collection (MDC) software in regularly monitoring flow rates and drainage conditions at tap stands in their residential sections to provide even greater detailed data collection and analysis.

Shelter and Core Relief Items

- UNHCR continues to provide shelter for newly arrived asylum-seekers at the reception centre.
- Refugees and asylum-seekers in Tongogara Refugee Settlement receive essential household items like blankets, jerry cans, mosquito nets, kitchen sets and solar lamps.
- Soap and sanitary materials are distributed monthly to ensure improved personal hygiene in the settlement. Soap quantities have increased to 1,000 grams per person per month since the COVID-19 pandemic.

Coordination and Management

- UNHCR's partners implement protection and assistance activities in Tongogara Refugee Settlement.
- The Government of Zimbabwe, through the Department of Social Development, provides social services and documentation, and manages the settlement and the transit centre reception facilities.
- The Office of the Commissioner for Refugees leads the national refugee programme in coordination with other key stakeholders.

Access to Energy

- Access to sufficient cooking fuel is low in Tongogara Refugee Settlement, with a monthly provision of 450 cubic metres of firewood for some 3,000 households.
- The provision of uninterrupted electricity for lighting, water provision and other services in the settlement remains uncertain with the country's erratic electricity supply. UNHCR is exploring the option of introducing innovative and sustainable energy solutions. Tongogara Refugee Settlement has great potential for solar energy solutions given the area's peak sun hours.

- UNHCR is piloting a clean energy project in Tongogara Refugee Settlement and Harare, which uses organic waste to produce energy for cooking purposes. The project aims to diminish the carbon footprint by reducing the use of charcoal and firewood.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- UNHCR is supporting agricultural projects including the expansion of the irrigation scheme from 50 hectares to 150 hectares for farming, horticulture, fish farming and livestock activities like poultry, piggery. These initiatives not only provide food security but also create economic opportunities for the refugees.
- UNHCR continues to support transformative, climate-smart and environmentally sustainable livelihood solutions such as insect farming to boost resilience through insect protein production, processing, and commercialization.
- Two hectares of land has been fenced for the greening programmes that involve woodlot establishment at the settlement to reduce environmental degradation.
- The operation is piloting a bio-fencing project which will see a reduction in animal and human conflict over crops in the field hence increased crop production and securing of the fields.

Durable Solutions

- UNHCR facilitates resettlement and voluntary repatriation opportunities, where feasible.
- Resettlement quota for 2024 is 1,000 persons for the United States, 200 for Australia and 100 for Canada. This represents a total of 1,300 individuals. Submissions towards 2024 are ongoing.
- During January-August 2024, 1,017 refugees departed through the resettlement program and 651 have been submitted to Australia (25), Canada (56) and the United States (570).

Statelessness

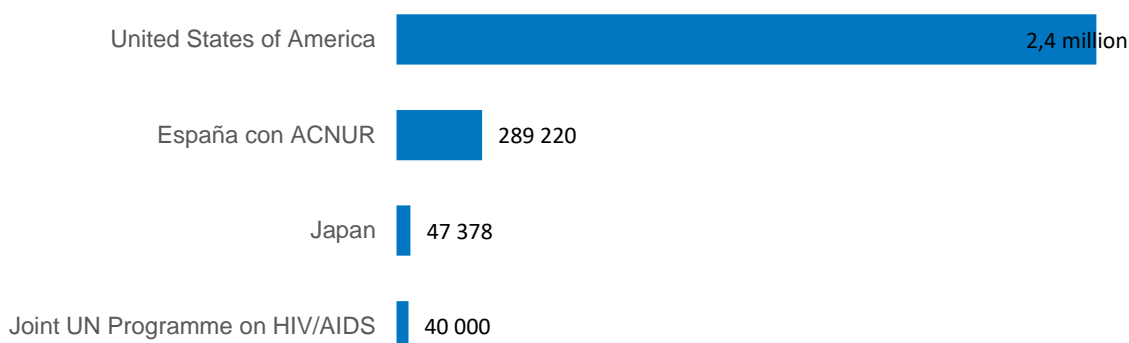
- UNHCR collaborates with the Government of Zimbabwe on preventing and reducing statelessness. Currently, UNHCR and the Government are undertaking a study on nationality and statelessness.
- UNHCR managed to include questions on access to documentation and citizenship in the 2022 census as a mechanism to identify the risk of statelessness. UNHCR has provided funding support for the census.
- UNHCR continues to advocate for removing legal and administrative barriers that may result in statelessness.
- UNHCR continues to advocate with the Government to issue birth certificates to refugee and asylum-seeker children to prevent them from being further exposed to the risk of statelessness.
- UNHCR and the Government of Zimbabwe are pursuing a study on nationality and statelessness. A field survey is pending to complete the study.

Financial Information

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to the Zimbabwe operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with broadly earmarked and unearmarked funds.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE OPERATION | USD

Contributions for the operation amount to some **US\$ 2.7 million**



BROADLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Special thanks to the major donors of other broadly earmarked contributions that can potentially be used for this operation due to their earmarking to a related situation or theme, or to the region or sub-region.

Australia for UNHCR 6.5 million | **UNO-Flüchtlingshilfe** 3.9 million | **Norway** 2.8 million
 Italy | Finland | Germany | Private donors

UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Special thanks to the major donors of unearmarked contributions.

Sweden 90.6 million | **Norway** 58.9 million | **España con ACNUR** 44 million | **Denmark** 37.8 million | **Netherlands (Kingdom of the)** 36.3 million | **France** 33.6 million | **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland** 28.5 million | **Japan for UNHCR** 26.9 million | **Private donors in the Republic of Korea** 20.1 million | **Switzerland** 19.2 million | **Republic of Korea** 18 million | **Belgium** 14.2 million | **Ireland** 13.6 million | **Private donors in Italy** 12.9 million | **Australia** 10.7 million

Algeria | Angola | Armenia | Austria | Bulgaria | Costa Rica | Estonia | Finland | Iceland | Liechtenstein | Luxembourg | Malta | Mexico | Monaco | Montenegro | New Zealand | Peru | Philippines | Qatar | Russian Federation | Saudi Arabia | Serbia | Singapore | Thailand | Türkiye | Private donor

CONTACT & LINKS

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