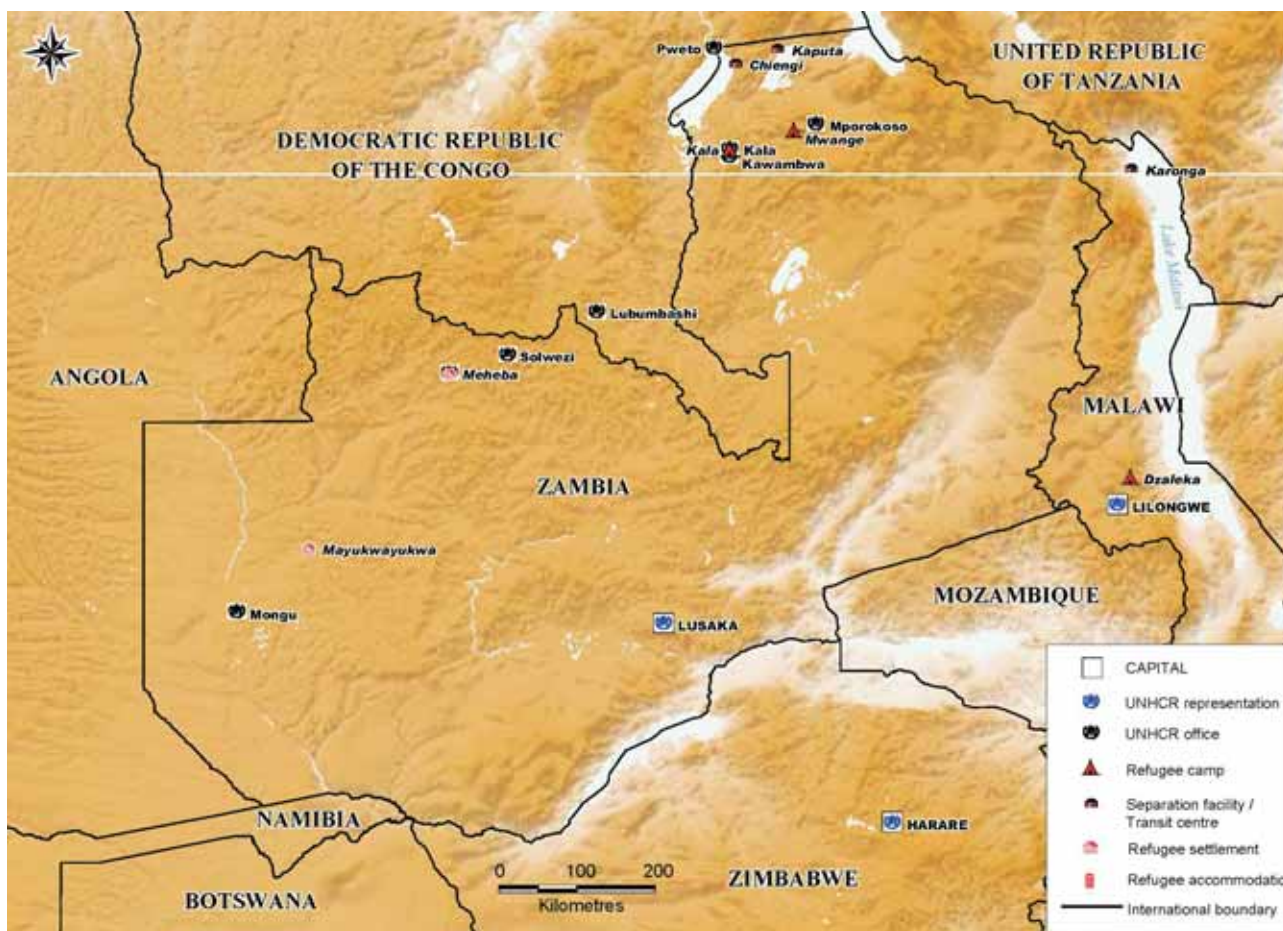


# Zambia



## Working environment

### The context

By the end of June 2007, Zambia was hosting some 117,000 refugees. The majority, some 59,300, come from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), and about 40,600 from Angola. Approximately 54 per cent of the refugees live in refugee settlements and 5 per cent in urban areas, while the rest have settled spontaneously in different parts of the country. The vast majority of those in settlements have been granted refugee status on a *prima facie* basis; some have been accepted as refugees on the basis of refugee status determination (RSD) by the National Eligibility Committee.

Refugees in Zambia are required to stay in designated camps or settlements, and need special authorization to stay in urban areas. There is no legal provision for them to obtain Zambian citizenship. However, the Government has recently announced that it may grant permanent residence to some of the long-staying refugees, with priority given to those who were born in

Zambia or who have married nationals. The former Executive Committee Chairman, H.E. Ambassador Love Mtesa, has provided welcome support in advocating for the opening up of such local integration opportunities.

Zambia is party to the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol, as well as the 1969 OAU Convention. UNHCR has been advocating for a new refugee law that would be in line with international protection principles.

### The needs

Joint planning sessions with implementing and operational partners have guided UNHCR's planning in Zambia. Similar meetings with refugees of both sexes, adolescents and children elicited their views on issues that affect their lives in the settlements. Standards and indicators were used to verify the main gaps and quantify the needs.

The main needs identified in the refugee settlements are in the sectors of education, health, vocational training and livelihood opportunities. Physical security was identified as a concern for urban refugees.



UNHCR/J. Redden

Income-generating activities for refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Participatory needs assessments enable UNHCR to find solutions to the refugees' most pressing problems. The Office therefore encourages the involvement of all refugees in this activity. However, the Office has noted that participatory assessments create high expectations among refugees, who anticipate immediate solutions to their problems.

**Total requirements**  
 2008: USD 8,835,503  
 2009: USD 5,434,198

#### Main objectives

- Improve the capacity of the Government and civil society to protect and assist refugees and asylum-seekers in accordance with international standards.
- Ensure that refugees and asylum-seekers can avail themselves of national social services, including education and health care.
- Facilitate durable solutions for refugees: voluntary repatriation in safety and dignity; local integration for people with few prospects of returning home; and resettlement as a protection tool for a limited number of individuals.
- Promote more flexible criteria for refugees to obtain urban-residence permits, which would allow them to work and benefit from health services.
- Provide training in refugee law for Government officials, including immigration officials, members of Parliament, members of the Refugee Status Determination Eligibility Committee and the Sub-Committee on Urban Refugees.
- Undertake public information activities to promote tolerance and the international protection of refugees, as well as inform the general public about UNHCR's work.

### Planning figures

Type of population	Origin	Jan 2008		Dec 2008 / Jan 2009		Dec 2009	
		Total in country	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Total in country	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Total in country	Of whom assisted by UNHCR
Refugees	DRC	57,630	40,490	42,630	25,490	26,620	9,490
	Angola	40,720	18,630	20,500	17,500	20,000	16,200
	Rwanda	4,050	1,920	4,000	1,900	3,800	1,800
	Various	12,710	390	12,000	300	11,500	250
Asylum-seekers	Various	270	-	300	-	320	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>115,100</b>	<b>61,430</b>	<b>79,130</b>	<b>45,190</b>	<b>61,920</b>	<b>27,740</b>

## Key targets for 2008 and 2009

- Approximately 30,000 Congolese refugees return home with UNHCR help in 2008, and the remaining 10,000 in 2009.
- Some 800 refugees are resettled in third countries in 2008; 500 are resettled in 2009.
- A significant number of Angolan refugees are granted permanent residence permits in 2008.
- Negotiations with the Government on the granting of permanent residence permits to the remaining Congolese refugees begin in 2008.
- A new refugee law is passed by Parliament.
- No incidents of violence specifically targeting refugees.
- The local Government and NGOs take over refugee assistance and protection in the north of the country.

## Strategy and activities

In 2008-2009, UNHCR's overall strategy is to work with the Zambian Government to reach agreement on the local integration of the refugees remaining in the country. The Office will promote self-reliance among refugees in order to reduce their dependence on humanitarian assistance in the sectors of education, health care, agricultural services, water and sanitation. Crop production, animal husbandry and income-generating activities will also be given priority. These programmes will also benefit local Zambian communities.

UNHCR will work with the Government to implement the Zambia Initiative in north-western and western Zambia. The initiative targets the development of infrastructure and agriculture. Local communities and refugees will be helped to achieve self-sufficiency through community empowerment and area-development projects. In 2008-2009, the Zambia Initiative will complement local integration activities in regions where the Government has expressed a willingness to consider granting permanent-residence permits to some of the remaining Angolan refugees who have developed strong links to the country.

As part of UNHCR's regionalization strategy, the Office will build the capacity of Government staff to deal with refugee issues. It will provide logistical support, including vehicles, to government institutions in refugee-hosting areas, while the Government gradually integrates refugee programmes into local development plans. The ultimate goal is to ensure that refugee programmes are included in the national budget in the coming years.

In 2008-2009, UNHCR's Strengthening Protection Capacity Project will also continue in Zambia with a view to reinforcing the ability of the Government and Zambian civil society to respond to the protection needs of refugees and asylum-seekers.

## Constraints

Some 40,000 Angolan refugees remained in Zambia after the completion of the repatriation operation in January 2007. Some 45 per cent of them are still being assisted in the settlements. UNHCR had hoped that the remaining population would be integrated within local communities and become self-sufficient. An important obstacle has been the fact that refugees are unable to acquire Zambian citizenship or obtain permanent resident status under current legislation. UNHCR continues to advocate for a review of the current law.

Although the Government has recently expressed a desire to revise relevant laws and grant permanent residence permits to some Angolan refugees, the refugee population under the care of the international community remains larger than envisaged. This has created gaps in basic services, which have been further aggravated by the withdrawal of some partners.

Repatriation to the Democratic Republic of the Congo begun in May 2007, with the goal of returning at least 20,000 Congolese refugees by the end of the year. Efforts to scale up the operation did not yield the expected results, because of logistics constraints and the security situation in the main return areas of Katanga. By the beginning of August, some 4,500 Congolese had returned home. Movements have been on hold since then, when a security incident led to the temporary relocation of UN staff from the town of Moba in Katanga. This creates an unexpected burden on the 2008-2009 programme because there will be more refugees in the settlements than planned.

## Organization and implementation

### UNHCR presence

	2008	2009
Number of offices	5	5
Total staff	74	42
International	12	7
National	53	32
JPOs	1	0
UNVs	8	3

## Coordination

UNHCR coordinates country-wide refugee assistance in collaboration with the Commissioner of Refugees in the Ministry of Home Affairs. The Office will have eight implementing partners: two international NGOs, four government departments and two local NGOs. UNHCR will 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 thematic groups on gender and HIV and AIDS. The Office will conduct joint programmes with UN agencies to improve targeted development assistance to refugee-affected areas and to develop projects along the lines of the Zambia Initiative.

### Partners

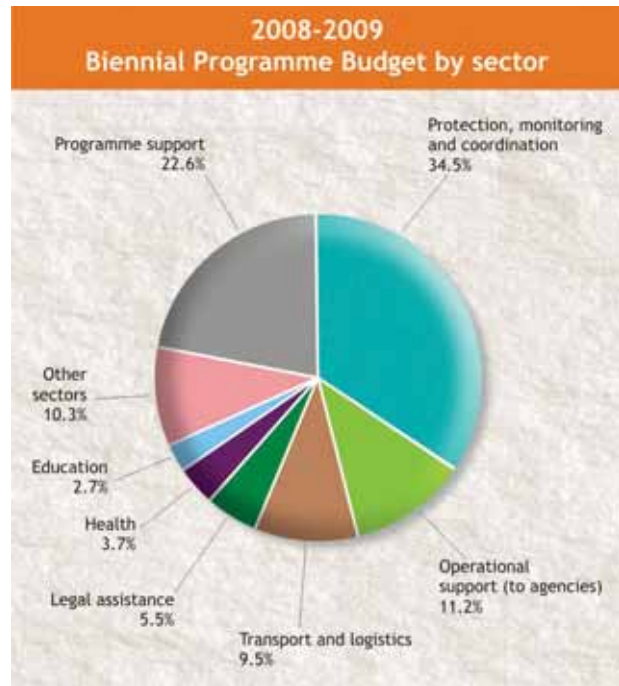
#### Implementing Partners

**Government:** Commissioner for Refugees, Ministry of Home Affairs; District Water Department; District Health Department; District Community Services Department.

**NGOs:** *Afrika Aktion Hilfe*; Hodi, World Vision International; Zambia Red Cross Society.

#### Operational partners

**Others:** FAO; IFRC; IOM; UNFPA; UNICEF; WFP.



### Budget (USD)

Activities and services	2007			2008	2009
	Annual Programme Budget	Supp. Programme Budget	Total	Annual Programme Budget	Annual Programme Budget
Protection, monitoring and coordination	3,859,976	0	3,859,976	3,216,405	1,699,977
Community services	184,298	23,179	207,477	238,337	99,756
Crop production	117,036	0	117,036	62,700	40,737
Domestic needs	59,461	31,388	90,849	222,752	41,188
Education	367,340	0	367,340	224,087	159,921
Fisheries	10,000	0	10,000	27,856	6,316
Food	0	0	0	10,000	10,000
Forestry	46,733	53,997	100,730	20,957	40,333
Health	529,953	60,478	590,431	291,801	236,089
Income generation	81,788	0	81,788	194,204	28,038
Livestock	10,000	0	10,000	6,000	0
Legal assistance	420,712	97,161	517,873	544,264	242,954
Operational support (to agencies)	1,165,153	222,775	1,387,928	1,053,399	551,037
Sanitation	24,490	0	24,490	21,894	6,316
Shelter and other infrastructure	23,088	37,087	60,175	115,201	110,000
Transport and logistics	675,109	531,053	1,206,162	847,544	511,635
Water	140,138	42,882	183,020	75,371	90,847
<b>Total operations</b>	<b>7,715,274</b>	<b>1,100,000</b>	<b>8,815,274</b>	<b>7,172,772</b>	<b>3,875,143</b>
Programme support	2,079,611	0	2,079,611	1,662,731	1,559,055
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,794,885</b>	<b>1,100,000</b>	<b>10,894,885</b>	<b>8,835,503</b>	<b>5,434,198</b>

Note: The Supplementary Programme Budget excludes a 7 per cent support cost that is recovered from contributions to meet indirect costs for UNHCR.

