



CONGO

UNHCR
2014-2015
GLOBAL APPEAL



UNHCR's planned presence | 2014

Number of offices	3
Total personnel	67
International staff	10
National staff	44
UN Volunteers	13

Overview

Working environment

- The Republic of the Congo (Congo) is a party to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, as well as to the 1969 OAU Convention. However, the country is yet to establish a comprehensive refugee and asylum law. It has also not acceded to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons, nor the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness. The Congo signed the Kampala Convention, but has not yet ratified it.

- Most refugees in the Congo have been recognized on a *prima facie* basis. As of mid-2013, the Congo hosted over 60,000 refugees and asylum-seekers from Angola, the Central African Republic (CAR), Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Rwanda.

- The operational environment poses several logistical challenges to providing humanitarian assistance to refugees in the north of the country. Challenges include the lack of road access to eighty per cent of the refugee population and changing water levels that make movements by river impossible during six months of the year.

- In June 2013, the Congo invoked the cessation clauses for Rwandan refugees who fled their country between 1959 and 1998. UNHCR is working closely with the Government to process over 4,000 applications received from Rwandan refugees seeking continued international protection.

- For the next biennium, it is anticipated that the Congo will continue to provide refugees with identification documents, designate areas where they can live, provide overall protection to refugee populations and ensure their freedom of movement.

People of concern

The people of concern planned for in 2014 under the Congo operation are: refugees from the DRC who arrived in the country in 2009 and for whom voluntary repatriation is ongoing; refugees from the CAR who fled the ongoing crisis in the country; Rwandan refugees who fled their country in the aftermath of the genocide; and Angolan refugees who fled their country as a result of conflicts between 1961 and 2002.

Planning figures

Type of population	Origin	Dec 2013		Dec 2014		Dec 2015	
		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	Angola	260	260	230	230	100	100
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	57,350	57,350	32,240	32,240	12,120	12,120
	Rwanda	8,140	8,140	4,980	4,980	1,000	1,000
	Various	290	290	430	430	250	250
Asylum-seekers	Chad	160	160	150	150	150	150
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	2,490	2,490	2,390	2,390	2,390	2,390
	Rwanda	240	240	230	230	220	220
	Various	320	320	300	300	270	270
Returnee arrivals during year (ex-refugees)	Congo	10	10	10	10	10	10
Others of concern	Angola	590	590	-	-	-	-
	Rwanda	-	-	3,000	3,000	6,950	6,950
	Various	390	390	300	300	250	250
Total		70,240	70,240	44,260	44,260	23,710	23,710

| Response |

Needs and strategies

In 2014, the main needs relate to the voluntary repatriation of refugees from the DRC, and to protection and solutions for all refugees and asylum-seekers in the Congo.

The Office plans to assist the voluntary repatriation of 20,000 refugees to the DRC, with transport and cash grants, in 2014. Individuals with special needs will be identified and receive special assistance.

UNHCR will work in collaboration with the Government to ensure that all refugees have access to documents. It will build the capacity of local authorities to recognize documents and reduce harassment and detention of asylum-seekers and refugees.

UNHCR will work, in collaboration with the Comité National d'Assistance aux Réfugiés (CNAR), to expedite the processing of asylum applications awaiting a decision and to improve the current system.

For Rwandan refugees, a Government committee established with the support of UNHCR will process applications for exemption, and the Office will continue negotiations with the Government to ensure the right to appeal and to facilitate access to local integration, where appropriate.

The system to identify and refer cases of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) will be reinforced, particularly in the north of the country, and capacity-building efforts with the Government will strengthen the legal system.

For all refugees, there will be emphasis on providing children with access to primary school. Refugees will continue to have access to health care, water and sanitation services.

Main objectives and targets for 2014

The following matrix contains examples of some of the main activities planned in 2014. Using a selection of objectives from UNHCR's programme plans for the 2014-2015 biennium, it is designed to illustrate:

- what – under the global needs assessment planning and prioritization process – has been planned (**Planned activities**) for particular groups of people of concern (**People of concern**);
- the identified needs that can be covered if full and flexible funding is made available (**2014 comprehensive target**); and
- the needs that may not be met if funding falls short of the ExCom-approved budget (**Potential gap**). The estimation of a potential gap is based on the country operation's own assessment of the likely impact of a global funding shortfall. Calculations are based on various criteria, including the particular context, strategic priorities and

experience of resource availability for the respective area of activity in previous years.

Activities under objectives on child protection (including best interest determination), education and prevention and response to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) are core areas which are given priority in the allocation of funding (**priority area**). In order to ensure the necessary flexibility in the allocation of funds, UNHCR relies on unrestricted contributions from its donors.

It should be understood that in some cases, targets for activities or delivery of services may not be reached for reasons other than a funding shortfall, e.g. lack of access to people of concern, cases not reported, changing circumstances, security problems, insufficient capacity to implement all programmes planned, etc. In the Global Report 2014, an explanation of why any target may not have been reached will be provided.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES	PEOPLE OF CONCERN	2014 COMPREHENSIVE TARGET	POTENTIAL GAP
Fair protection process and documentation			
Civil registration and civil status documentation strengthened			
UNHCR, in collaboration with its Government partner, will ensure that refugees and asylum-seekers hold a civil status document and that children are provided with birth certificates.			
Number of people of concern registered and issued documentation through procedure for late birth registration	Refugees in rural areas (north-east)	1,716	516
Quality of registration and profiling improved or maintained			
UNHCR, in collaboration with its Government partner, will continue to ensure the registration of new refugees in 2014. UNHCR plans to strengthen the capacity of the <i>Comité National d'Assistance aux Réfugiés</i> .			
Percentage of people of concern registered on an individual basis	Refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas	100%	0 gap
Security from violence and exploitation			
Risk of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) is reduced and quality of response improved			
In 2014, UNHCR and its partners will reinforce their activities on prevention against SGBV for refugees in rural and urban areas. Legal services will be increased in 2014, and medical and social support will be enhanced to reduce the vulnerability of victims.			
Number of reported SGBV incidents for which survivors receive legal assistance	Refugees in urban areas	19	priority area
Number of people of concern trained on SGBV prevention and response	Refugees in urban areas	730	priority area
Protection of children strengthened			
In 2014, UNHCR will strengthen mechanisms that allow children to express and work through their problems, e.g. by establishing recreation centres and fostering their participation in the community.			
Number of best interest determination (BID) decisions taken by BID panel	Refugees in rural areas (north-east)	210	priority area
Favourable protection environment			
Law and policy developed and strengthened			
In 2014, UNHCR will continue to advocate for the ratification by the Congolese Government of the two Conventions on Statelessness as well as for the adoption of a comprehensive refugee and asylum law.			
Extent to which capacity support is provided to the Government	Refugees	100%	0 gap

Durable solutions

Potential for voluntary return is realized

In 2014, UNHCR will continue to assist with the safe and dignified return of all refugees wishing to go home.

Number of cross-border coordination meetings held	Refugees in rural areas (north-east)	2	0 gap
Number of people of concern provided with safe and dignified returnee transport	Refugees in rural areas (north-east)	20,000	2,200

Basic needs and essential services

Supply of potable water increased or maintained

Refugees and host communities continue to use water from rivers for drinking and domestic needs. In 2014, UNHCR aims to provide 15 litres of potable water per person per day, and thus decrease risks of diseases derived from the consumption of dirty water.

Number of water management committees established	Refugees in rural areas (north-east)	365	31
Number of wells constructed/rehabilitated	Refugees in rural areas (north-east)	365	31

Health status of population improved

In 2014, UNHCR will continue to ensure that people of concern have access to primary healthcare by providing medicines to health centres, and ensuring the referral of complicated cases to appropriate hospitals.

Extent to which access to NGO or faith-based primary healthcare facilities is ensured for people of concern	Refugees in rural areas (north-east)	100%	0 gap
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Nutritional well-being improved

UNHCR and its health partners will ensure that the nutritional status of refugee children between 0-5 years is in line with international standards. Nutrition surveillance will also be strengthened for the detection and timely treatment of cases of moderate and severe malnutrition.

Extent to which functional nutritional surveillance system established or maintained	Refugees in rural areas (north-east)	100%	0 gap
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Population has optimal access to education

In rural areas, access to education will be supported through the integration of refugee children into national schools; those schools will be strengthened to enable the successful integration of the refugee children.

Number of children enrolled in primary education	Refugees in rural areas (north-east)	20,842	priority area
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Partners

Implementing partners

Government agencies:

Comité National d'Assistance aux Réfugiés (CNAR)

NGOs:

African Initiatives for Relief and Development, *Agence d'Assistance aux Rapatriés et aux Réfugiés au Congo*, *Commission d'Entraide pour les Migrants et les Réfugiés*, International Partnership for Human Development, *Médecins d'Afrique*

Others:

UNDP, WFP

Operational partners

Government agencies:

Comité National d'Assistance aux Réfugiés (CNAR)

NGOs:

African Initiatives for Relief and Development, International Partnership for Human Development

Others:

UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNV, WFP, WHO

Coordination

UNHCR works, in coordination with the CNAR, on all activities aimed at protecting and assisting refugees in urban and rural areas. The CNAR has a presence in Brazzaville as well as in other areas of the country where refugees and asylum-seekers are located.

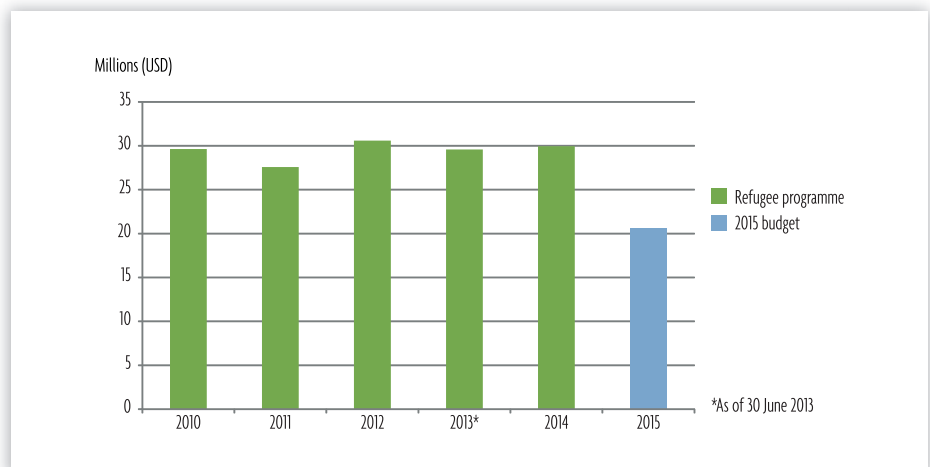
UNHCR works with other UN organizations as well as with national and international humanitarian partners to find solutions for refugees and asylum-seekers. Monthly meetings established with humanitarian partners to reinforce coordination, particularly in light of the influx of refugees from the CAR into the Congo, will continue in 2014. Memorandums of understanding have been signed with UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF and WFP to further ensure that gaps in all sectors are addressed adequately.

| Financial information |

Since the arrival of refugees from the DRC in late 2009, the financial requirements for UNHCR's operation in the Congo have remained relatively constant, allowing the Office to meet the basic protection and assistance needs of refugees and asylum-seekers in the country.

UNHCR's revised 2013 budget is USD 29.6 million. In 2014, the financial requirements are set at USD 29.9 million, given the unstable situation in the CAR and the ongoing refugee arrivals in the country.

Budgets for the Congo | 2010–2015



2014 budget for the Congo | USD

Budget breakdown	PILLAR 1 Refugee programme	Total
2013 revised budget (as of 30 June 2013)	29,586,000	29,586,000
Favourable protection environment		
Law and policy	35,672	35,672
Administrative institutions and practice	114,725	114,725
Subtotal	150,397	150,397
Fair protection processes and documentation		
Registration and profiling	187,225	187,225
Status determination procedures	423,172	423,172
Individual documentation	313,947	313,947
Civil registration and status documentation	661,171	661,171
Subtotal	1,585,515	1,585,515
Security from violence and exploitation		
Prevention and response to SGBV	500,938	500,938
Protection of children	677,517	677,517
Subtotal	1,178,455	1,178,455
Basic needs and essential services		
Health	2,874,185	2,874,185
Reproductive health and HIV services	1,073,356	1,073,356
Nutrition	537,893	537,893
Water	1,836,840	1,836,840
Sanitation and hygiene	143,947	143,947
Basic and domestic items	1,659,893	1,659,893
Services for people with specific needs	1,432,119	1,432,119
Education	2,638,591	2,638,591
Subtotal	12,196,825	12,196,825
Community empowerment and self-reliance		
Community mobilization	172,119	172,119
Self-reliance and livelihood activities	1,096,845	1,096,845
Subtotal	1,268,964	1,268,964
Durable solutions		
Voluntary return	5,226,320	5,226,320
Integration	102,172	102,172
Resettlement	286,345	286,345
Subtotal	5,614,837	5,614,837
Leadership, coordination and partnerships		
Coordination and partnerships	499,619	499,619
Donor relations and resource mobilization	212,119	212,119
Subtotal	711,738	711,738
Logistics and operations support		
Logistics and supply	4,489,738	4,489,738
Operations management, coordination and support	2,752,000	2,752,000
Subtotal	7,241,738	7,241,738
2014 total budget	29,948,467	29,948,467