

ANGOLA

Working environment

The context

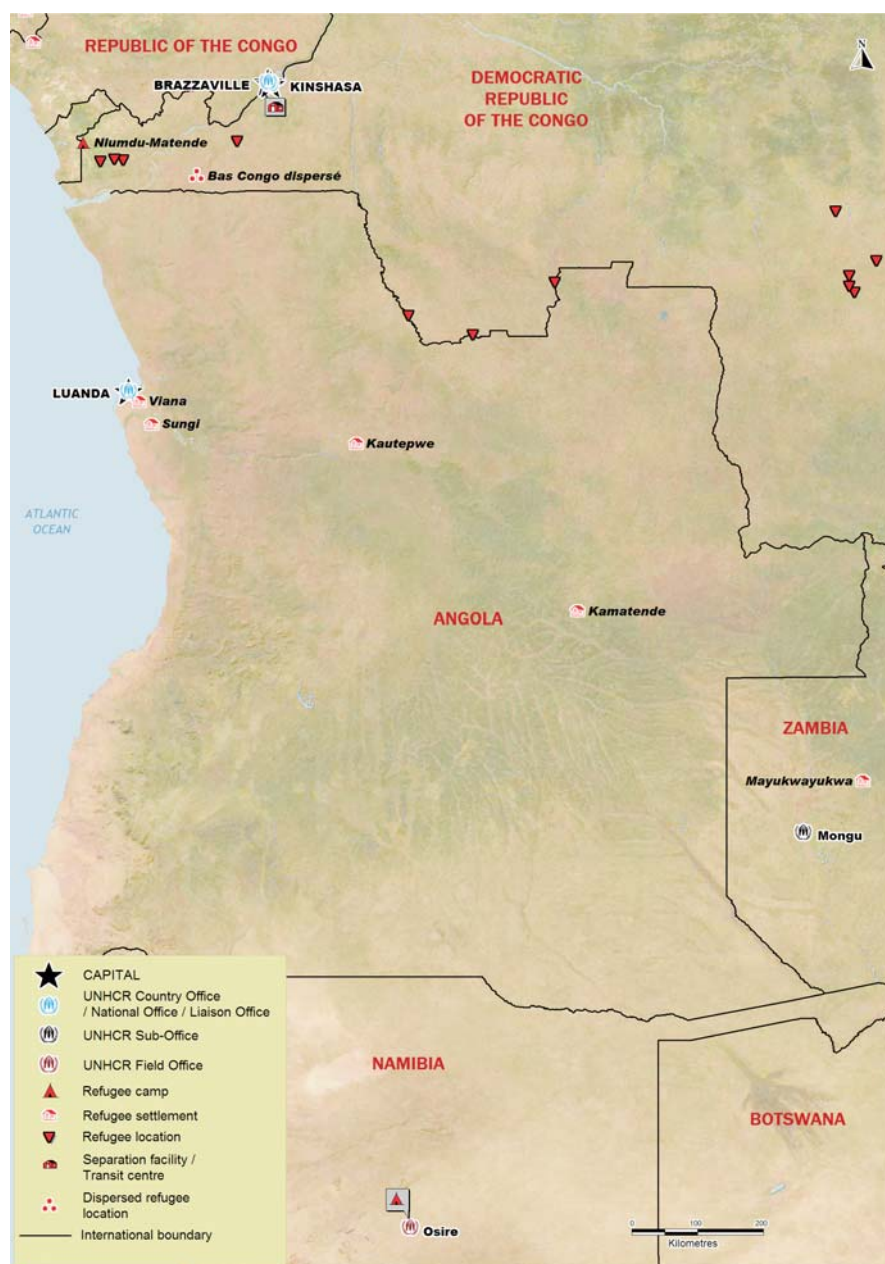
The Republic of Angola, which emerged from decades of civil war in 2002, held parliamentary elections successfully in September 2008. Efforts to consolidate a 2006 peace agreement, aimed at bringing an end to local insurgency in the oil-rich enclave of Cabinda, are continuing. The record growth of Angola's economy has attracted thousands of irregular migrants from other African countries, despite the fall in oil prices in late 2008 and the onset of the global recession in 2009. The Government has declared that economic reconstruction, diversification of the economy and poverty reduction are its key goals. It has also conducted campaigns against irregular migrants, deporting tens of thousands. Angola's population of 12 million remains one of the world's poorest.

Angola is a signatory to the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol, as well as to the 1969 OAU Refugee Convention. A national refugee status determination (RSD) system has been established with UNHCR's help, but there is a considerable backlog of cases.

The number of refugees at the beginning of 2009 stood at approximately 12,700, of whom some 11,900 were Congolese who arrived more than 30 years ago. The estimated number of pending asylum applications was close to 3,200.

By the time organized voluntary repatriation ended in early 2007, some 409,450 Angolan refugees had returned home in both UNHCR-facilitated (138,600) and spontaneous (270,850) movements. In addition, between April 2007 and the end of 2008 more than 23,600 people

returned spontaneously, bringing the total number of returns to some 433,000.



Planning figures

| TYPE OF POPULATION | ORIGIN | JAN 2010 | | DEC 2010 - JAN 2011 | | DEC 2011 | |
|----------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| | | 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 | 12,000 | 6,000 | 12,000 | 6,000 | 12,500 | 6,000 |
| | Various | 600 | 330 | 1,100 | 630 | 1,000 | 580 |
| Asylum-seekers | Côte d'Ivoire | 1,800 | 1,000 | 1,600 | 1,200 | 1,600 | 1,000 |
| | DRC | 1,000 | 750 | 1,000 | 500 | 1,000 | 500 |
| | Sierra Leone | 800 | 400 | 300 | 200 | 300 | 150 |
| | Various | 400 | 200 | 600 | 300 | 600 | 300 |
| Returnees (refugees) | | 30,000 | 30,000 | 53,000 | 53,000 | - | - |
| TOTAL | | 46,600 | 38,680 | 69,600 | 61,830 | 17,000 | 8,530 |

● The needs

Angola does not have an appropriate legal framework to deal with the large numbers of irregular migrants streaming into the country, thousands of whom are periodically expelled from Angola in degrading conditions. Asylum-seekers and refugees are sometimes caught up in the eviction campaigns.

UNHCR, together with the International Organization for Migration (IOM), is advocating for the development of a modern and humane migration-management policy in Angola. UNHCR will also continue to provide technical advice and support to the Government in order to help the latter develop Angola's asylum system and refugee legislation.

In early 2009, there were still about 147,000 Angolan refugees in the neighbouring countries, of whom an estimated 83,000 were willing to return home. The Angolan Government has expressed a commitment to finding solutions for Angolan refugees and asylum-seekers, particularly through voluntary repatriation.

| Main objectives |

Favourable protection environment

- Prevent statelessness through research, strengthened partnerships

and promotion of awareness and legislation on the issue.

Fair protection processes

- Monitor the reception and reintegration of returning Angolan refugees to ensure that they are repatriated in safety and in dignity.
- Help the Government to build an effective national asylum system that protects refugees and asylum-seekers.
- Assist the Government to meet the growing challenge posed by mixed-migration flows, with particular emphasis on refugee protection.
- Provide protection and legal assistance to asylum-seekers and refugees to ensure that they can avail themselves of asylum procedures, identity documents and protection against *refoulement*.

Basic needs and services

- Provide basic assistance and essential services to vulnerable refugees and asylum-seekers, including shelter, health and education.
- Help urban refugees to gain better access to public services and enjoy their rights, including to employment.

Key targets for 2010

- The RSD backlog is reduced by at least 20 per cent through capacity building and legal support to the Government.
- At least 50 per cent of the protracted refugee population from the DRC is naturalized or allowed permanent residence.
- All refugees and asylum-seekers are registered and all obtain civil-status documents.
- The Government is helped to receive and reintegrate some 53,000 Angolan refugees who are expected to return home in 2010.
- Resettlement is used as a protection tool for 100 refugees, including 60 from the DRC.
- Micro-credits are provided to 50 vulnerable refugees.
- Vocational training benefits 30 vulnerable refugee women.

Durable solutions

- Find durable solutions for refugees in Angola through naturalization or local integration, repatriation to their country of origin, or resettlement in a third country.



A reconciliation and reintegration project for returnees in Cazombo provides vocational training, including motorcycle repair.

UNHCR / MEDIEEN

UNHCR's presence in 2010

| | |
|---------------------|----|
| □ Number of offices | 1 |
| □ Total staff | 27 |
| International | 5 |
| National | 18 |
| JPOs | 1 |
| UNVs | 3 |

PARTNERS

Implementing partners

Government agencies:

Comité de Reconhecimento do Direito de Asilo/Ministry of Justice (COREDA)

Refugee Department of the Ministry of Social Assistance and Reintegration

Ministry of Interior/SME

NGOs:

Jesuit Refugees Services

Development Workshop

Rede Nacional de Pessoa Vivendo com VIH/SIDA (RNP)

Igreja Evangelica dos Irmaos em Angola, Luena (IEIA)

Others:

International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Operational partners

Government agencies:

Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Justice

Others:

UNDP

UNICEF

WHO

WFP

UNAIDS

Strategy and activities

In 2010, UNHCR plans to strengthen asylum procedures and find durable solutions for some 11,900 Congolese from Katanga. UNHCR hopes that the Government will grant an alternative status to at least 50 per cent of the population by the end of 2010, either through naturalization or local integration with permanent residency.

The Office will also promote policies for the admission and reception of asylum-seekers and stateless persons; address the registration and documentation needs of refugees and asylum-seekers; and advocate for adoption of the revised Refugee Bill, for which UNHCR has provided technical assistance. More training will be provided to Government officials dealing with asylum and mixed-migration issues.

UNHCR will continue to provide shelter assistance to vulnerable refugees. The revolving micro-credit project, currently being implemented by a UNHCR partner, will continue in 2010 to help refugees become self-reliant in preparation for local integration.

UNHCR will provide technical assistance in the organization of returns, as well as offer some financial help to returnee families to cover transportation costs. The Office will also monitor the conditions of return and reintegration in their final destinations. The Angolan Government will assume the responsibility for the reception and reintegration of returnees.

UNHCR will install mechanisms to monitor the repatriation and initial reintegration of the Angolan returnees, and provide technical and professional support to Government counterparts to ensure that the repatriation process complies with international protection norms. The Office will also assist where necessary with issues such as the provision of civil-status documentation for the returnees.

UNHCR also plans to provide Portuguese-language training to some of the returnees and to supply limited quantities of school materials to some of the schools. A number of the return locations and feeder roads may require de-mining to provide safer environments, besides allowing better access for protection-monitoring activities.

○ Constraints

The Government remains determined to strengthen border controls to deal with

irregular migration. The provincial immigration authorities do not have any arrangements in place for the reception of asylum-seekers at border points. Lack of access to asylum procedures thus remains an issue of serious concern. Refugees and asylum-seekers rely upon UNHCR and its implementing partners for legal support. There is no national registration system for asylum-seekers and refugees in Angola. UNHCR's registration system, *proGres*, has not yet been implemented in the country.

There are chronic shortages in the supply of basic requirements and essential services for refugees and asylum-seekers, including shelter, health and education. Gender-based violence is a growing problem, particularly in the remote provinces and areas outside Luanda. The absence of NGOs with expertise in refugee and human rights issues is another constraint.

Organization and implementation

UNHCR will continue to operate from Luanda with a workforce of 27 individuals, including 18 national and five international staff.

○ Coordination

Close collaboration with the Angolan Government remains crucial. The growing need to address the challenges of mixed flows will necessitate increased cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of the Interior's Service for Migration and Foreigners (SME). Improving the national asylum system will require close cooperation with the SME, the Ministries of Justice and Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Social Assistance and Reintegration, the latter playing the key role in receiving and reintegrating returnees.

UNHCR will continue to play an active role in the UN Country Team, with the aim of promoting its mandate and role within the broader UN context and also to benefit from the combined resources of the team. UNHCR plans to establish a Working Group within the UNCT to focus on protection and forced-displacement issues. The Office will continue to work closely with IOM in addressing mixed migration.

Finally, UNHCR will seek to expand its pool of implementing partners. The Office's partnership strategy will be redefined in 2010 to allow it to work with partners that have the proven ability to deliver results.

Financial information

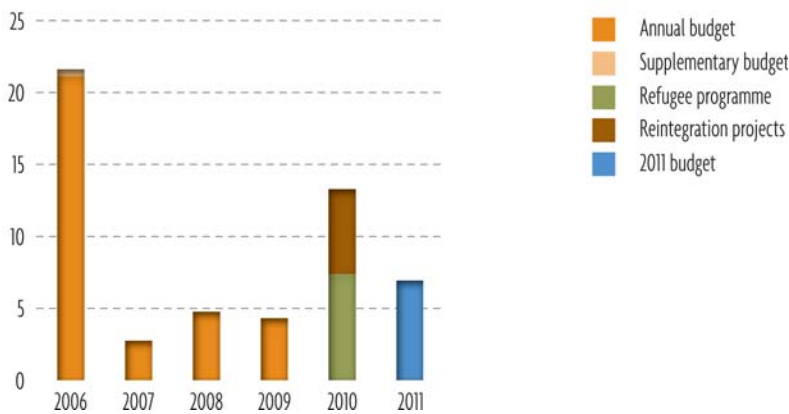
The budget in Angola reached a peak in 2006, due to the return and reintegration programme for Angolan refugees from the neighbouring countries. In 2007, the budget dropped by 86 per cent to USD 2.8 million. In 2008, it rose again by more than half, mainly due to an increase in the refugee influx from the Great Lakes Region and the Horn of Africa. Part of the increase contributed to the capacity building of

Government institutions dealing with refugee status determination, as well as the asylum system in the country.

The 2010 budget represents a significant increase, which is not only due to the comprehensive needs assessment, but also because of the planned resumption of repatriation of the remaining Angolan refugees, currently estimated at 147,000. The 2011 budget will mainly cater for refugee self-reliance activities and capacity building for the RSD system and legal reform.

UNHCR's budget in Angola 2006 - 2011

Millions (USD)



2010 UNHCR Budget for Angola (USD)

| RIGHTS GROUPS AND OBJECTIVES | REFUGEE PROGRAMME PILLAR 1 | REINTEGRATION PROJECTS PILLAR 3 | TOTAL |
|--|----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Favourable protection environment | | | |
| National legal framework | 224,000 | 0 | 224,000 |
| National and regional migration policy | 227,917 | 0 | 227,917 |
| Cooperation with partners | 187,220 | 0 | 187,220 |
| Access to territory | 167,845 | 0 | 167,845 |
| Non-refoulement | 191,220 | 0 | 191,220 |
| Subtotal | 998,201 | 0 | 998,201 |
| Fair protection processes and documentation | | | |
| Reception conditions | 207,929 | 0 | 207,929 |
| Registration and profiling | 621,612 | 0 | 621,612 |
| Fair and efficient status determination | 153,207 | 0 | 153,207 |
| Individual documentation | 202,423 | 0 | 202,423 |
| Civil status documentation | | 500,044 | 500,044 |
| Subtotal | 1,185,171 | 500,044 | 1,685,215 |
| Security from violence and exploitation | | | |
| Law enforcement | 111,238 | 0 | 111,238 |
| Gender-based violence | 67,613 | 0 | 67,613 |
| Non-arbitrary detention | 81,238 | 0 | 81,238 |
| Access to legal remedies | 128,738 | 0 | 128,738 |
| Subtotal | 388,827 | 0 | 388,827 |

Consequences of a 20 – 40 per cent funding shortfall

- The RSD backlog will not be reduced by at least 15 per cent as planned.
- Some 20 per cent of the protracted refugee population from DRC will not be naturalized or allowed permanent residence in Angola.
- The Government will not be assisted to receive and reintegrate 20,000 of the Angolan refugees expected to return home in 2010.
- Micro-credit projects will only be provided to 20 vulnerable refugees.
- Shelter assistance will not be provided to some 700 vulnerable refugees
- Only 10 vulnerable refugee women will benefit from vocational training.
- Some refugees will not be registered and obtain civil status documents.

| RIGHTS GROUPS AND OBJECTIVES | REFUGEE PROGRAMME PILLAR 1 | REINTEGRATION PROJECTS PILLAR 3 | TOTAL |
|---|----------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Basic needs and essential services | | | |
| Shelter and other infrastructure | 1,736,636 | 0 | 1,736,636 |
| Primary health care | 56,721 | 0 | 56,721 |
| HIV and AIDS | 91,636 | 0 | 91,636 |
| Education | 61,721 | 331,110 | 392,831 |
| Services for groups with specific needs | 91,721 | 0 | 91,721 |
| Subtotal | 2,038,436 | 331,110 | 2,369,546 |
| Community participation and self-management | | | |
| Participatory assessment and community mobilization | 80,623 | 0 | 80,623 |
| Community self-management and equal representation | 69,623 | 0 | 69,623 |
| Self-reliance and livelihoods | 149,623 | 0 | 149,623 |
| Subtotal | 299,869 | 0 | 299,869 |
| Durable solutions | | | |
| Durable solutions strategy | 177,325 | 0 | 177,325 |
| Voluntary return | 0 | 4,061,199 | 4,061,199 |
| Resettlement | 160,411 | 0 | 160,411 |
| Local integration support | 182,411 | 0 | 182,411 |
| Subtotal | 520,147 | 4,061,199 | 4,581,345 |
| Logistics and operations support | | | |
| Supply chain and logistics | 589,303 | 0 | 589,303 |
| Programme management, coordination and support | 1,412,779 | 1,016,036 | 2,428,815 |
| Subtotal | 2,002,081 | 1,016,036 | 3,018,118 |
| Total | 7,432,733 | 5,908,389 | 13,341,122 |
| 2011 Budget | | | 6,970,000 |
| 2009 Revised annual budget | | | 4,340,132 |