

Collecting water for washing in
Osire refugee settlement in Namibia.



Angola
Botswana
Comoros
Lesotho
Madagascar
Malawi
Mauritius
Mozambique
Namibia
Seychelles
South Africa
Swaziland
Zambia
Zimbabwe

Southern Africa



| OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS |

- Organized voluntary repatriation to Angola resumed in 2011, with nearly 4,000 refugees returning. Verification exercises indicated that some 55,000 of the nearly 135,000 Angolan refugees in the region wished to repatriate. UNHCR advocated for governments to consider the option of local integration for Angolans with strong ties to their country of asylum.
- Efforts to prevent and reduce statelessness benefited more than 1,700 people in South Africa, and a regional conference on statelessness in November 2011 in South Africa saw the participation of eight countries. UNHCR supported Mozambique's bid to provide documentation to some 11,300 of its citizens in the province of Manica or in South Africa.
- UNHCR trained 115 government officials in South Africa, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe to enhance their countries' capacity to adhere to international standards on refugee status determination (RSD).
- At 2,680, the number of resettlement submissions from the subregion in 2011 was 24 per cent higher than in the previous year.
- Almost 6,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) from Zimbabwe benefited from the distribution of domestic items and some 5,500 individuals received assistance to obtain civil status documents.



Working environment

While the political environment in Southern Africa remained stable, mixed migration movements continued to affect nearly all countries in the region, resulting in strict border entry controls in Mozambique, Malawi, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The general public has also reacted with animosity and xenophobic violence in some cases, for instance targeting small business owners in South Africa. Reports of deportations and human rights abuses in Mozambique along its border with the United Republic of Tanzania may have contributed to a reduction in the number of Somalis and Ethiopians coming by boat to Mozambique.

Except in Angola and South Africa, most refugees in Southern Africa reside in camps or settlements. Botswana, Malawi and Zimbabwe have maintained strict encampment policies. In Mozambique and Namibia too, refugees reside mainly in camps or settlements but are allowed some freedom of movement in order to work. In Zambia, refugees reside in settlements, where they are *de facto* locally integrated.

National asylum systems in the region again came under severe strain and authorities had difficulty in identifying in a timely manner those who were in need of international protection.

Achievements and impact

UNHCR focused on helping governments to uphold asylum and enhance their protection capacities by improving RSD and registration procedures, and developing strategies to deal with mixed migration. Xenophobia was addressed through collaboration with governments, NGOs and other civil society actors, who joined in advocating tolerance of foreign migrants and helped raise awareness of the plight of refugees. UNHCR ensured that refugees and

asylum-seekers received essential assistance in camps and settlements, while government officials were trained to respect the principles of international refugee law. Workshops on refugee issues and the phenomenon of mixed migration for the benefit of journalists and media representatives in Mozambique and Zimbabwe were attended by some 60 people.

The Governments of Botswana, Namibia and Zambia have indicated that they would consider permanent residency for Angolans, but only after prospects of voluntary repatriation were exhausted. Voluntary repatriation continued to be facilitated in the subregion, and more than 2,730 individuals returned home in 2011. The majority returned to Angola from Botswana, Namibia and Zambia, while others repatriated to Burundi, Rwanda and Zimbabwe.

In 2011, some 2,680 people were submitted for resettlement. Four of the eight major resettlement operations in the region exceeded planning targets. The highest number of submissions was from South Africa, with almost 870 people, followed by Zimbabwe, Botswana and Malawi. Most of those submitted (49 per cent) originated from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), 37 per cent from Somalia and the remainder from Burundi and Rwanda.

Constraints

Border control measures, the application of the first country of asylum principle to new arrivals, and strict implementation of encampment policies restricted protection space and reduced opportunities for refugees to become self-reliant.

The mixed flow of a large number of migrants and asylum-seekers overwhelmed asylum systems and reduced the quantity and quality of RSD decisions.

Voluntary repatriation was not seen as a durable solution for the majority of refugees, and many looked instead to resettlement in third countries or local integration.

Operations

UNHCR's operation in **South Africa** is described in a separate chapter.

Angola had more than 16,200 refugees and asylum-seekers. Of these, some 12,000 originated from Katanga in the DRC and have been refugees in Angola for more than 30 years. UNHCR continued to advocate for the Government to consider local integration for this group, most of whom no longer have strong ties to their country of origin.

UNHCR provided technical support to the Service for Migration and Foreigners and Committee for the Recognition of Asylum Rights, in their review of existing asylum procedure, and to improve documentation and standardize internal procedures. Refugees in Angola have freedom of movement and reside mainly in urban areas. Most are self-reliant. To improve livelihoods, UNHCR supported vocational training or income-generating activities for almost 200 refugees.

An information campaign on refugees' rights and responsibilities was directed at people of concern, while training and information sessions on HIV and AIDS and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) saw the participation of some 2,300 people. Psychosocial support was provided to more than 270 individuals.

The organized voluntary repatriation of Angolan refugees got underway in 2011. Almost 4,000 Angolan refugees returned home from Botswana, the DRC, Namibia and Zambia, with UNHCR's assistance. The lack of adequate

absorption capacity in the east of the country, together with funding shortfalls slowed the start of the operation. UNHCR assisted the Government of Angola with the transportation of returnees to their areas of return, and ensured that reception and transit centres were properly managed. UNHCR also provided Portuguese-language training to nearly 2,300 returnees, helped enrol some 2,800 returnee children in primary schools, and funded the construction and refurbishment of primary schools and classrooms for more than 2,100 students.

Botswana hosted almost 3,600 refugees and asylum-seekers, of whom 3,200 resided in Dukwi camp: 29 per cent were from Namibia, 24 per cent from Zimbabwe, 16 per cent from Angola, 15 per cent from Somalia and the rest from Burundi, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Rwanda, Sudan and Uganda. Refugees in the camp had access to basic services and UNHCR-provided food and non-food items (NFIs).

The strict implementation of the encampment policy had an impact on access to essential health services and self-reliance activities. UNHCR managed to obtain the release of several asylum-seekers who had been detained for several years while their asylum applications were pending. It also increased efforts to resettle eligible cases from Botswana, making some 350 submissions in 2011, a threefold increase from 2010. Almost 90 people were repatriated to various countries.

In **Madagascar**, 12 refugees received assistance. **Lesotho** hosted some 40 refugees from the DRC, Rwanda and other countries, the majority of them locally integrated and self-reliant.

The population of concern in **Malawi** grew by nearly 4,000, increasing refugees and asylum-seekers in Dzaleka camp to some 17,000. The majority were from Burundi, the DRC and Rwanda. UNHCR ensured that the refugees and

Budget and expenditure in Southern Africa | USD

Country		PILLAR 1 Refugee programme	PILLAR 2 Stateless programme	PILLAR 3 Reintegration projects	PILLAR 4 IDP projects	Total
Angola	Budget	8,508,489	0	891,459	0	9,399,948
	Expenditure	5,376,700	0	0	0	5,376,700
Botswana	Budget	4,028,897	0	0	0	4,028,897
	Expenditure	3,234,994	0	0	0	3,234,994
Malawi	Budget	3,615,655	0	0	0	3,615,655
	Expenditure	3,081,863	0	0	0	3,081,863
Mozambique	Budget	5,379,985	403,558	0	0	5,783,543
	Expenditure	3,859,152	343,427	0	0	4,202,579
Namibia	Budget	4,523,007	0	75,189	0	4,598,196
	Expenditure	3,221,306	0	62,179	0	3,283,485
South Africa Regional Office¹	Budget	40,135,780	1,031,941	0	0	41,167,721
	Expenditure	11,604,488	629,131	0	0	12,233,619
Zambia	Budget	14,555,582	0	0	0	14,555,582
	Expenditure	9,732,875	0	0	0	9,732,875
Zimbabwe	Budget	4,054,654	790,154	1,561,454	4,432,293	10,838,555
	Expenditure	3,091,780	289,568	358,911	1,816,898	5,557,157
Total budget		84,802,049	2,225,653	2,528,102	4,432,293	93,988,097
Total expenditure		43,203,158	1,262,126	421,090	1,816,898	46,703,272

¹Includes regional activities in Southern Africa.

asylum-seekers had access to essential services and helped the Government to review its asylum policy. It was hoped that the review would lead to a legal and policy environment more conducive to local integration, including by addressing the restrictive encampment policy and Malawi's reservations to the 1951 Refugee Convention. Some 70 refugees repatriated voluntarily during the year, mainly to the DRC, Burundi and Rwanda. Another 240 refugees departed for resettlement in third countries.

In 2011, the number of people of concern in **Mozambique** increased sharply (73 per cent) to a total of almost 13,700 refugees and asylum-seekers. Of these, some 4,100 were recognized refugees. Most originated from Burundi, the DRC and Rwanda, but the rise in numbers was caused mainly by flows of mixed migration from Ethiopia and Somalia, overstressing the operational capacities of the Government and of UNHCR.

In addition to overcrowding in the camp, new problems arose when more than 2,000 asylum-seekers were stranded at the border with the United Republic of Tanzania, and in dire need of humanitarian assistance. In response, UNHCR joined efforts with WFP and IOM to scale up the distribution of food and core relief items, and relocated people to the camp, where shelter, healthcare, supplementary feeding and registration were available. There were reports of forceful returns and cases of ill-treatment of asylum-seekers on the northern borders.

Towards the end of the year, most of the new arrivals left the camp, presumably for South Africa. Nevertheless, arrivals from Burundi, the DRC and Rwanda and to a lesser extent from the Horn of Africa continued. An increase was also seen in the urban population, which benefited from policies allowing access to basic education and employment as well as employment opportunities, as part of a self-reliance strategy to promote local integration.

A verification exercise showed that **Namibia** hosted almost 7,000 refugees and asylum-seekers, with 62 per cent originating from Angola, 29 per cent from the DRC and the remainder from Burundi, Rwanda and other African countries. Of the 6,000 refugees and 1,000 asylum-seekers, nearly 90 per cent resided in Osire refugee settlement and the remainder in urban areas. Assistance was provided to the people of concern in the settlement.

The Government of Namibia continued to provide financial support, mainly in the areas of health and education, and was willing to gradually take over these sectors for up to 2,000 refugees. The Government has formally expressed its willingness to integrate refugees locally in Namibia, and with UNHCR's assistance has drafted a policy to establish the necessary criteria.

In 2011, almost 50 people of concern returned home with UNHCR assistance and some 140 people were referred for resettlement. In December, UNHCR organized a "Go and See" visit to Angola to gather information on developments in the country, and inform the Angolan refugee population.

The number of refugees in **Swaziland** at the end of 2011 stood at some 830, including 60 new arrivals. Of these, some 290 resided in the Malindza reception centre. The Government considered some 30 new refugee applications: 18 were granted asylum status, and the rest were deferred for various reasons. Refugees in the camp were provided access to social services; those residing in the cities are mainly self-reliant.

Zambia hosted some 46,700 refugees and asylum-seekers, most of whom reside in the refugee settlements of Meheba and Mayukwayuka. UNHCR made sure that the basic needs of the refugees and asylum-seekers were met. Around 70 per cent of those living in the settlements make a living from farming and are not dependent on food aid. Zambia participated in the Regional Dialogues with Refugee Women and Girls project, which saw 600 women and 60 men engage in discussions and propose solutions to end SGBV and promote gender equality.

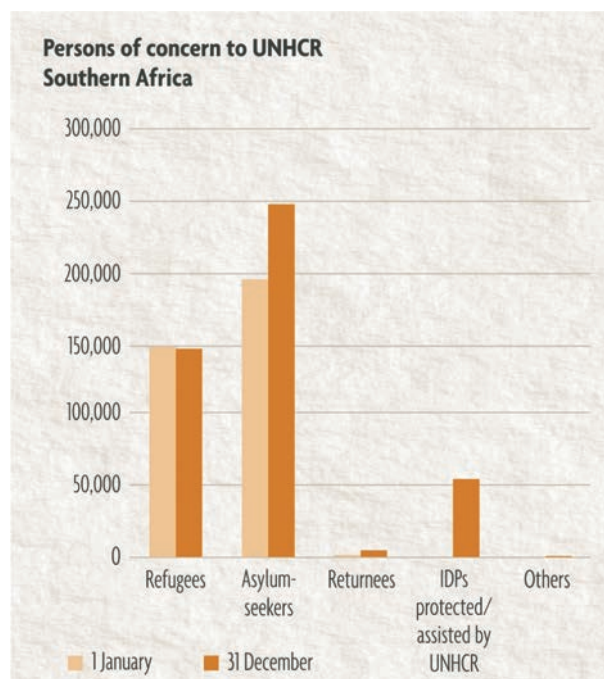
In light of the upcoming invocation of the cessation clauses for Angolan and Rwandan refugees, UNHCR has boosted the search for solutions for these groups. More than 2,400 Angolans were assisted to repatriate voluntarily from Zambia. Furthermore, as a result of advocacy by UNHCR, the Government pledged to assist 10,000 refugees, mostly Angolans, to integrate locally, and conducted screening procedure to extend this solution to a small number of Rwandans.

Voluntary repatriation from Zambia, other than to Angola, was minimal. Another 210 refugees were resettled on the grounds of legal and physical protection needs.

The draft Refugee Bill, approved by the Cabinet of Ministers prior to submission to Parliament, was intended to bring national legislation more in line with the 1951 Refugee Convention.

In **Zimbabwe**, UNHCR assisted some 4,900 refugees and asylum-seekers in Tongogara refugee camp. More than 1,000 resided in urban areas, mainly in Harare. Most originated from Burundi, the DRC and Rwanda. The camp received over 5,800 new arrivals in 2011, mainly from the DRC, Ethiopia and Somalia, but the overwhelming majority of those from Ethiopia and Somalia left the camp after a short stay. UNHCR provided food and assistance to all the residents of the camp, where schools and health centres also served the surrounding host population.

The Government of Zimbabwe has continued to apply an encampment policy, excluding local integration as an option at this stage. Since most refugees do not consider voluntary repatriation to be an option, resettlement has been pursued as the only viable durable solution. Of the 550 refugees identified for resettlement in 2011, almost 200 departed. UNHCR leads the



Protection Cluster, and continues to strengthen its partnership with the Organ for National Healing, Reconciliation and Integration, and with the National Human Rights Commission, soon to be operational.

In 2011, the interagency protection cluster approved a Humanitarian Framework for Resettlement of IDPs in Zimbabwe, and set objectives and priorities. Zimbabwe was also in the process of ratifying the 2009 African Union Convention on IDPs. UNHCR and its partners organized nine training sessions in five provinces on UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, as well as five peace campaigns involving members of communities displaced on political grounds. Eight community gardens were established. UNHCR also assisted some 5,500 vulnerable Zimbabweans to obtain civil status documents.

Financial information

Although the funding received was adequate for life-sustaining activities, most country operations received less than they required. The impact of the shortfall was felt in many essential areas, including food, shelter, coexistence and self-reliance activities. In Malawi, for example, UNHCR was unable to renew supplies of basic domestic items, with which the refugees were last provided four years ago. With existing resources already limited, it was extremely difficult to absorb new arrivals in the refugee camps in Botswana, Malawi and Mozambique. Furthermore, the number of individuals able to repatriate voluntarily to Angola from Zambia was lower than planned as movements had to be by air due to logistical constraints.

Voluntary contributions to Southern Africa | USD

Earmarking / Donor	PILLAR 1 Refugee programme	PILLAR 2 Stateless programme	PILLAR 3 Reintegration projects	PILLAR 4 IDP projects	All pillars	Total
SOUTHERN AFRICA SUBREGION						
Canada					815,494	815,494
Southern Africa subtotal	0	0	0	0	815,494	815,494
ANGOLA						
Brazil			580,000			580,000
Private donors in Portugal	153,384					153,384
United States of America					400,000	400,000
Angola subtotal	153,384	0	580,000	0	400,000	1,133,384
BOTSWANA						
United States of America	250,000					250,000
Botswana subtotal	250,000	0	0	0	0	250,000
MOZAMBIQUE						
CERF	923,362					923,362
UN Delivering as One	71,000					71,000
Mozambique subtotal	994,362	0	0	0	0	994,362
NAMIBIA						
International Olympic Committee	34,708					34,708
Namibia subtotal	34,708	0	0	0	0	34,708
SOUTH AFRICA REGIONAL OFFICE						
Brazil	400,000					400,000
Norway	11,661					11,661
UN Programme on HIV and AIDS	184,882					184,882
South Africa Regional Office subtotal	596,543	0	0	0	0	596,543
ZAMBIA						
Japan Association for UNHCR	4,282					4,282
United States of America	250,000				500,000	750,000
Zambia subtotal	254,282	0	0	0	500,000	754,282
ZIMBABWE						
African Union	25,000					25,000
CERF	747,551					747,551
Japan				1,000,000		1,000,000
Switzerland		21,505	90,000	211,075		322,581
UN Programme on HIV and AIDS	25,000					25,000
Zimbabwe subtotal	797,551	21,505	90,000	1,211,075	0	2,120,132
Total	3,080,830	21,505	670,000	1,211,075	1,715,494	6,698,905