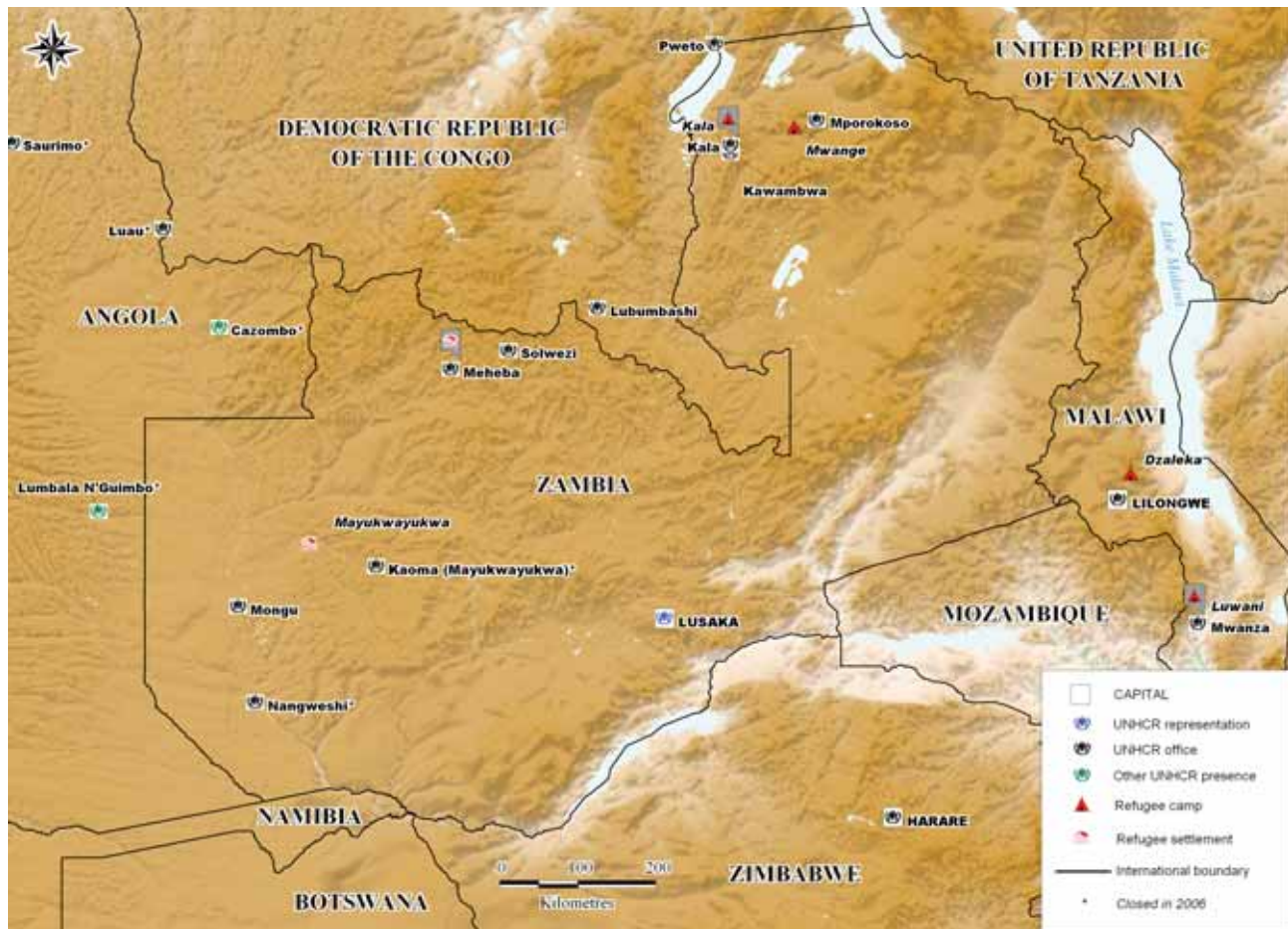


Zambia



Operational highlights

- UNHCR helped to repatriate some 8,300 Angolan refugees to Angola, while an estimated 2,970 refugees returned spontaneously.
- More than 4,900 Angolan refugees remaining in Zambia were transferred to Mayukwayukwa settlement, which offers better local integration prospects, and Nangweshi refugee camp was closed.
- UNHCR facilitated the resettlement of about 400 refugees, most of whom were Congolese, in various third countries.
- The Governments of Zambia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and UNHCR signed a Tripartite Agreement on the repatriation of Congolese refugees in Zambia. A repatriation plan of action was also prepared.

Working environment

Zambia provided a generally favourable environment for refugees, and hosted more than 120,000 of them in

2006. Most were from the DRC and Angola, with smaller groups from Rwanda, Burundi and other countries.

Trends in refugee movements changed because of political stability in Angola on the one hand, and conflicts in the Great Lakes and Central Africa on the other. Asylum-seekers from the DRC, Rwanda, Burundi, Somalia and Ethiopia continued to arrive in Zambia, while the number of Angolan refugees in the country declined due to voluntary repatriation to Angola.

The Government of Zambia did not pass new refugee legislation in 2006. However, it has stated its intention to do so.

In 2006 UNHCR and the Government of Zambia agreed to close the Nangweshi refugee camp due to the difficulty of reaching it by road and the lack of local integration prospects for refugees in the area. After the repatriation of camp residents who wished to return to Angola, those who remained were relocated to Mayukwayukwa refugee settlement. The latter site provided better local integration prospects because of access to agricultural land and services.

Achievements and impact

Main objectives

UNHCR's objectives in Zambia were to assist the voluntary repatriation of Angolan refugees; work with the Government to facilitate the local integration of those Angolan refugees who do not opt for voluntary repatriation; promote development programmes in refugee-hosting areas for both refugees and local communities; explore durable solutions, such as local integration and voluntary repatriation, for Rwandan refugees, and resettlement for the most vulnerable refugees; and pursue voluntary repatriation to safe areas of Burundi and the DRC.

Protection and solutions

Zambia did not amend its legislation on refugees in 2006. However, it is anticipated that in 2007-2009, the implementation of the Strengthening Protection Capacity Project will build on the stated interest of the Government to repeal the 1970 Refugee Act and replace it with new legislation more favourable to refugees and others of concern to UNHCR.

An HIV and AIDS task force increased condom distribution from less than 900,000 in 2005 to one million in 2006. Efforts to combat HIV and AIDS remained a major part of UNHCR's activities. All camps and settlements have voluntary counselling and testing services with trained personnel. The number of those using these services increased substantially—from three per month in 2004 to more than 35 per month in 2006—in the largest camps of Kala, Mwange and Meheba. Similarly, services for the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV functioned in all camps.



Angolan refugees in Nangweshi camp at the beginning of 2006. By the end of the year the camp had been closed and those refugees who did not wish to repatriate were relocated to Mayukwayukwa settlement, where they had access to land and services.

During 2006, the promotion of programmes to counter sexual and gender-based violence may be at least partly responsible for a 60 per cent reduction in the number of reported cases.

Activities and assistance

Community services: UNHCR assisted about 7,400 urban refugees with special needs at six outreach centres. It trained some 1,400 refugee women on how to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence. More policewomen were recruited, and women's participation in camp decision-making structures increased. This was especially so in food distribution, where more than 50 per cent of those responsible are now women. Some 150 refugee women were taught tailoring, carpentry, how to work tin and bricklaying.

Crop production: The Government provided all the refugee households relocated from Nangweshi to

Persons of concern					
Type of population	Origin	Total	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Per cent female	Per cent under 18
Refugees	DRC	60,900	43,800	50	56
	Angola	42,700	18,600	57	52
	Rwanda	4,100	2,000	41	37
	Burundi	1,400	300	39	30
	Somalia	1,700	-	42	31
	Various	9,500	100	-	-
Asylum-seekers	Various	200	-	-	-
Total		120,500	64,800		

Mayukwayukwa with 2.5 acres of agricultural land each. They were also trained in farming methods. UNHCR hired and trained workers to provide extension services to more than 3,500 farmers in both the camps in northern Zambia. The farmers were also given seeds, tools and fertilizers. As a result, over 80 per cent of refugee households were engaged in agriculture by the end of 2006.

Domestic needs and household support: Budgetary constraints cut into the distribution of non-food items. For example, soap could only be distributed to all refugee households in two of the five camps. Sanitary materials were not provided to women and girls in Meheba camp because refugees there were more self-sufficient.

Education: UNHCR covered the cost of books and uniforms and paid the fees for 400 urban refugee children attending primary school. In the Western Province it paid part of teachers' salaries and helped with school supplies, ensuring that the primary school enrolment rate in the province remained at 100 per cent. In northern Zambia, due to a lack of classrooms, a second school shift was organized to allow two separate groups to attend classes daily. A strengthened back-to-school initiative saw primary school enrolment in northern Zambia reach an average of 80 per cent.

Forestry: Regular environmental patrols were conducted in all camps. Natural resource management by the community helped prevent fires and improved compliance with environmental regulations.

Health and nutrition: UNHCR provided medical assistance to more than 2,600 urban refugees. In the camps, it distributed repellent-impregnated mosquito nets to all refugee households, provided condoms and antiretroviral treatment. These efforts reduced sickness and mortality rates. A measles vaccination campaign targeted all children in Nangweshi camp before their return to Angola or transfer to Mayukwayukwa. Both UNHCR and the Government helped ensure an adequate supply of medicines.

Income generation: UNHCR established ten vocational skills training groups in northern Zambia. It provided some 300 microcredit loans – 98 per cent of which were repaid – to 50 households engaged in fish farming. Another 380 vulnerable refugees in northern Zambia received microcredits to improve their livelihoods.

Legal assistance: Awareness-training sessions on sexual and gender-based violence were organized for over 1,200 women in three camps, Mayukwayukwa, Nangweshi and Meheba. Cases of rape and domestic violence were reported to the police and some were

taken to court. There were no cases of *refoulement* during the year and no refugees were arbitrarily arrested.

Livestock: Livestock and training in animal husbandry were provided to 120 refugee families, increasing the number of refugees with an alternative source of income.

Operational support (to agencies): UNHCR paid the operational costs of implementing partners to deliver services to refugees. It also provided training in programme and financial management to four new governmental implementing partners.

Sanitation: Refugees continued to live in healthy sanitary conditions. However, the latrine coverage per family was reduced compared to 2005 – 69 per cent less in Mayukwayukwa and 39 per cent less in Meheba, with only Nangweshi showing an improvement. The latter camp, however, had been completely demolished by December 2006 and the latrines disinfected and covered.

Shelter and infrastructure: All refugees had access to dwellings and agricultural land in Mayukwayukwa and Meheba. Houses were constructed using local materials.

Transport and logistics: Close to 8,400 Angolan refugees were assisted to repatriate. Some 4,900 others were relocated from Nangweshi to Mayukwayukwa. Mechanical workshops were maintained in western and northern Zambia to keep UNHCR's vehicles operational.

Water: Provision of water reached the standard of 20 litres per person per day. In Meheba, 13 water, sanitation and hygiene committees were reconstituted, while 22 were established in Mayukwayukwa.

Constraints

The political situation in the DRC prevented UNHCR from fulfilling its plan to repatriate 10,000 Congolese refugees from northern Zambia. This affected services to refugees, as there were no funds available to assist those who had been expected to repatriate.

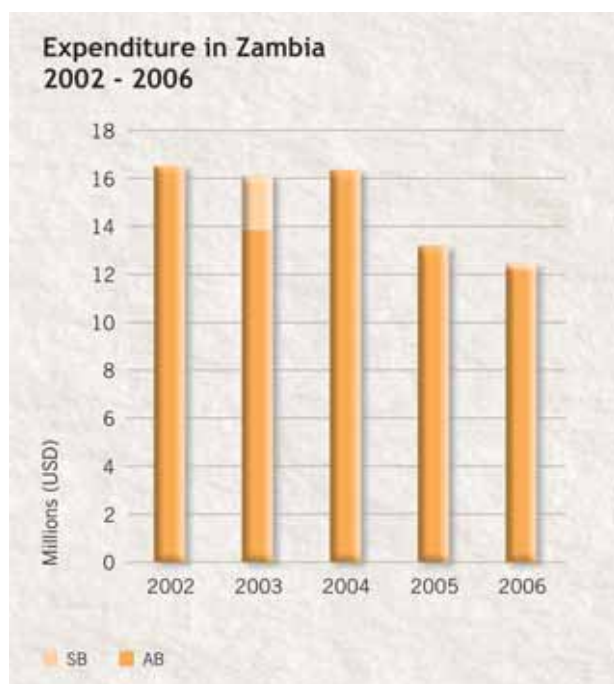
Poor roads hindered programme implementation. The high staff turnover rate among some implementing partners was also a concern.

Due to volatile exchange rate fluctuations in the second quarter of the year, the Office had to absorb the differences, thereby reducing the scope of its planned activities. On average, implementing partners received only 70 per cent of the planned instalments.

Financial information

The capping of UNHCR's budget limited its ability to implement its objectives in Zambia. Both educational and income-generating activities were negatively affected as a result. Pre-school facilities could not be rehabilitated, refresher courses for teachers could not be implemented and English-language teaching suffered a set back.

From 2005 UNHCR's expenditures in Zambia began to decline due to the success of the repatriation programme for Angolan refugees. The smaller number of refugees resulted in lower expenditures in 2005 and 2006.



Organization and implementation

Management

UNHCR managed its operations from the Representation in Lusaka and a network of sub-offices and field offices located close to refugee camps and settlements. There had been a progressive reduction of established posts from 99 in January 2006 to 85 in December 2006. It is projected that the number of posts will come down to 74 by December 2007. The reduction was realized following the scaling down of the Angolan refugee operation in Zambia's North-Western and Western provinces in 2006.

Working with others

Throughout 2006, UNHCR has had six implementing partners in the north. In the west, governmental departments were requested to implement sector activities in water, education, agriculture and health, whereas NGOs continued to provide health, education and community assistance in Nangweshi. In order to prepare phasing down, UNHCR worked closely with governmental departments and helped strengthen capacities in the police, immigration, health, education, agriculture and water sectors.

In addition, WFP provided food aid to both the camp-based and repatriating refugees, whilst IOM facilitated refugee transportation during repatriation. ICRC continued to conduct family tracing for refugees.

Overall assessment

The goal of the 2006 refugee programme was to protect and assist Angolan refugees while searching for durable solutions for them, which was generally attained. However, camp-based refugees cannot move about freely due to Zambia's reservations to the 1951 Refugee Convention with regard to employment and freedom of movement. Furthermore, the Government has yet to establish the legal framework for the local integration of refugees.

Few projects under the Zambia Initiative were implemented in 2006 due to lack of funding, and many projects that had been started could not be completed. This hampered the integration of Angolan refugees.

The implementation of the age, gender and diversity mainstreaming project in all refugee locations helped improve refugee women's participation in leadership structures and the economy. Women were also given priority in school enrolment. However, the goal of gender parity in enrolment could not be achieved because illiteracy among women was still too high.

Partners
Implementing partners
Government agencies: Commissioner of Refugees (Ministry of Home Affairs), Department of Water Affairs (North-Western Province), Department of Water Affairs (Western Province - Mongu), Kaoma District Health Management Team (Western Province - Kaoma), Provincial Agricultural Office (Western Province - Mongu), Provincial Education Office (Western Province, Mongu), Solwezi District Health Office (Ministry of Health - Solwezi)
NGOs: African Humanitarian Action, <i>Aktion Afrika Hilfe</i> , Christian Outreach for Relief and Development, HODI, Zambian Red Cross Society, World Vision International
Others: IFRC, IOM, UNAIDS, WFP and WHO

Budget, income and expenditure (USD)

	Final budget	Income from contributions ¹	Other funds available ²	Total funds available	Total expenditure
AB	15,436,212	3,699,346	8,610,911	12,310,257	12,237,505
SB ³	2,825,365	0	206,585	206,585	206,585
Total	18,261,577	3,699,346	8,817,496	12,516,842	12,444,091

¹ Includes income from contributions earmarked at the country level.

² Includes allocations by UNHCR from unearmarked or broadly earmarked contributions, opening balance and adjustments.

³ The SB figures apply to the Repatriation and Reintegration of Congolese Refugees in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The budget does not include a 7 per cent support cost that is recovered from contributions to meet indirect costs for UNHCR.

Financial Report (USD)

Expenditure breakdown	Current year's projects			Previous years' projects
	AB	SB	Total	AB and SB
Protection, monitoring and coordination	4,478,420	65,125	4,543,544	0
Community services	230,164	0	230,164	29,355
Crop production	107,520	0	107,520	8,741
Domestic needs and household support	60,400	5,867	66,267	0
Education	305,348	0	305,348	49,058
Forestry	65,704	0	65,704	5,317
Health and nutrition	579,427	0	579,427	80,811
Income generation	18,975	0	18,975	2,789
Legal assistance	372,848	0	372,848	51,237
Operational support (to agencies)	1,813,428	6,066	1,819,493	100,914
Sanitation	21,949	0	21,949	2,710
Shelter and infrastructure	35,012	0	35,012	34,646
Transport and logistics	917,405	129,528	1,046,933	72,567
Water	134,538	0	134,538	22,759
Instalments with implementing partners	606,515	0	606,515	(460,901)
Sub-total operational activities	9,747,653	206,585	9,954,238	0
Programme support	2,489,853	0	2,489,853	0
Total expenditure	12,237,505	206,585	12,444,091	0
Cancellation on previous years' expenditure				(3,726)
Instalments with implementing partners				
Payments made	3,980,566	0	3,980,566	
Reporting received	(3,374,051)	0	(3,374,051)	
Balance	606,515	0	606,515	
Previous years' report				
Instalments with implementing partners				
Outstanding 1st January				1,745,780
Reporting received				(460,901)
Refunded to UNHCR				(144,045)
Adjustments				(161,423)
Balance				979,411