

# Zambia

30 September 2017

Since 30 August, **3,360 refugees from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) have been relocated from the border area to Kenani Transit Centre** in Nchelenge District/Luapula Province.

**Over 100 new arrivals** from the **Moba District** of the DRC have fled renewed fighting to Zambia in past two days. According to the refugees, more people are trying to make their way to Zambia.

**UNHCR requires urgent assistance and support to continue providing protection and life-saving humanitarian assistance** to refugees newly arrived in Luapula Province.

## KEY FIGURES

**3,360**

**Newly-arrived** Congolese refugees in Kenani Transit Centre in Nchelenge, Luapula province. 2,063 refugees have been biometrically registered

**60%**

Percentage of **children** among the new arrivals

**60,606**

**Total** number of refugees, asylum-seekers and other people of concern in Zambia by end of September 2017

## CONTACTS

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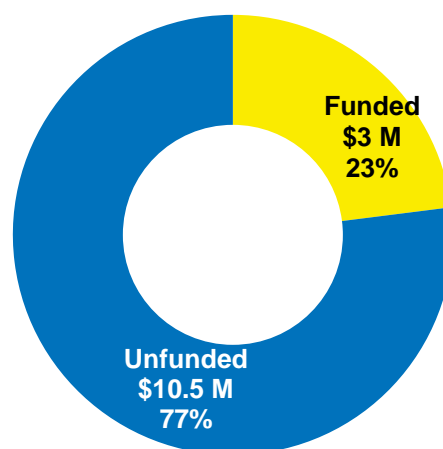
## LINKS:

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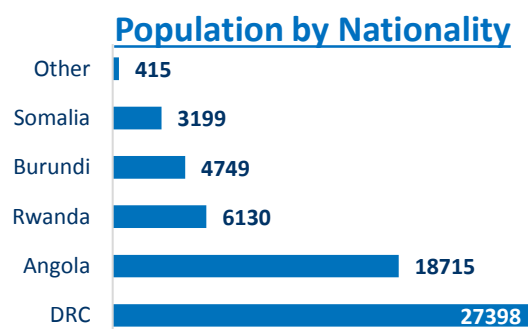
## FUNDING (AS 2 OCTOBER 2017)

**\$13.6 million**



## POPULATION OF CONCERN (AS OF 30 SEPTEMBER)

By country of origin



# Emergency Response

## Luapula province, northern Zambia

Since 30 August, over 3,000 asylum-seekers from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) have crossed into northern Zambia. New arrivals are reportedly fleeing insecurity and clashes between Congolese security forces FARDC and a local militia groups in towns of Pweto, Manono, Mitwaba (Haut Katanga Province) as well as in Moba and Kalemie (Tanganyika Province). Arrivals are reporting killings, rape, looting and burning of houses. Although a number of persons arriving from the DRC has significantly decreased, over 100 new asylum-seekers have arrived in past days. Asylum-seekers, 60 per cent of children, are in urgent need of protection and life-saving assistance including food, water, medical care, shelter and sanitation. UNHCR has declared a "Level 1 Emergency".

New arrivals are temporarily hosted in Chiengi Reception Centre in the border area (Chiengi District) before the onward relocation to Kenani Transit Centre (Nchelenge District/Luapula Province), some 150 kilometers from the border and 1,400 from the capital Lusaka. Kenani Transit Centre is currently hosting 3,360 refugees which is well over its capacity. Therefore, UNHCR and its partner, the Zambia Red Cross Society (ZRCS), have initiated the expansion of Kenani Transit Centre (section 2) to be able to accommodate up to 10,000 refugees. Government is also exploring the possibility to open a longer term settlement in the area with access to better livelihood options.

At the Kenani Transit Centre, UNHCR, and its partner ZRCS, in close coordination with local authorities, are distributing hot meals, erecting temporary shelters, providing core relief items, drilling boreholes to provide potable water and providing medical care. UNHCR is also providing technical support to the Zambian authorities who are registering asylum-seekers.

Earlier this year, UNHCR, together with the Government of Zambia and other partners, had updated a contingency plan to provide protection and life-saving humanitarian assistance. In 2017, 5,761 Congolese asylum-seekers have been registered so far in Zambia. The country is currently hosting over 60,000 refugees and other people of concern to UNHCR, nearly 28,000 from the DRC.



*Biometric registration is allowing systematic information gathering as well as planning of humanitarian response activities for Congolese refugees hosted at Kenani Transit Centre. UNHCR/ Pumla Rulashe.*



## PROTECTION

### Achievements and Impact

- Chiengi District Joint Operation Committee (DJOC), the District Commissioner, Commissioner for Refugees, the Zambia Red Cross Society (ZRCS) and UNHCR are undertaking border monitoring jointly.
- A total of 96 new arrivals from the DRC were transported from Chiengi Reception Centre to Kenani Transit Centre on 30 September. Asylum-seekers are reporting that due to the renewed fighting in their places of origin, more people are trying to make their way to Zambia.
- Total of 2,063 refugees (436 households) have been biometrically registered at Kenani Transit Centre since 26 September. Biometric registration is providing detailed information on persons of concern to guide UNHCR's protection and assistance activities.
- UNHCR and ZRCS facilitated a workshop for ZRCS volunteers on the Best Interest Assessment (BIA) interviews with children in Kenani Transit Centre.

- Total of 52 Unaccompanied or Separated Children (UASC) are hosted in Kenani Transit Centre.

#### **Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

- Rapid protection needs assessment still needs to be fully conducted in all villages along the border.
- The identification and separation of non-civilian elements by DJOC must be strengthened in Chiengi Reception Centre.
- Family tracing has been initiated but requires strengthening in both Chiengi Reception Centre and in Kenani Transit Centre. This will include country of origin tracing when the area becomes accessible.
- Establishing alternative care systems for foster care and group living for UASCs and for persons with specific needs is urgently required.
- Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) prevention and response mechanisms need to be strengthened.
- Continuous and systematic identification of persons with specific needs must be strengthened.



#### **HEALTH**

#### **Achievements and Impact**

- Medicines, locally procured by UNHCR, have been delivered to Chiengi and Nchelenge District health offices to supplement limited stock of medicines provided by the Ministry of Health.
- A total of 508 children under 5 years old have access to vaccinations, deworming, vitamin A and monitoring of growth.
- UNFPA will supply 2,000 units of maternity and baby kits as well as a maternity tent.
- A new area in Kenani Transit Centre, Kenani Transit Centre 2, is being cleared for the construction of two temporary health posts.

#### **Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

- Nchelenge Hospital is under-resourced and without sufficient medicines to treat the increasing number of new patients.
- Additional tents or shelters are required for the maternity ward.
- The District Health Office ambulance needs to be urgently repaired and serviced to support the growing referral demands.
- Delivery, maternity, dignity and Post Exposure Preventive Treatment (PEP) kits are not available in the health clinic.

- With a growing number of asylum-seekers with respiratory infections, malaria and diarrhea in Chiengi District, the ZRCS has been requested to make available volunteers (health professionals) in the area.
- Approximately 73 pregnant women are expected to give birth in October. Current facilities and capacities to cater for mothers and infants are insufficient both at the Kenani Transit Centre as well as in the district level.



### **FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION**

#### **Achievements and Impact**

- A dedicated space with a tent has been set up for nutrition services.
- The supplementary feeding program for malnourished children is ongoing with the provision of two meals per day, and the usage of locally procured maize meal, groundnuts, soya beans and sugar.
- A qualified nutritionist is managing nutrition requirements in Kenani Transit Centre.
- Food supplies including samp, beans and maize meal are provided for communal cooking.
- General food distribution has started in Kenani Transit Centre. Wet feeding will be provided only for the vulnerable groups.

#### **Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

- Total of 508 children under five have been screened: seven were found to be severely malnourished, 12 moderately, 24 mildly malnourished.
- Procurement of quality and available supplementary foods will be undertaken.
- There are no required supplies (RUTF, F75, F100) in district hospitals to treat severely malnourished children. Support from UNICEF requested.
- Insufficient medical facilities to treat children with severe malnutrition require urgent attention.



### **WATER AND SANITATION**

#### **Achievements and Impact**

- A second motorized borehole with a high water yield is expected to cover the daily water standard of 20 liters/person/day during next week. Two boreholes will be filling two tanks of 10,000 liters in Kenani Transit Centre 2.
- Borehole sighting has been approved in Kenani Transit Centre 2.

- A third borehole, will be donated by the DC of Nchelenge District as a local contribution for the refugees.
- Fourteen VIP permanent latrines and showers have been completed in Kenani Transit Centre. In addition, two separate toilets have also been completed. In Kenani Transit Centre 2, 15 latrines and 14 showers are being constructed.
- Twenty five traditional toilets have been completed in Kenani Transit Centre.

#### **Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

- Latrines are currently without water for handwashing. ZRCS will be providing buckets of water for proper hygiene practices. Sensitization on the use of toilet and hygiene promotion is also urgently required.
- In spite of an increase in the number of latrines constructed, open defecation continues. The urgent collection and burying of human waste is required given the growing numbers of refugees with diarrhea.



#### **SHELTER AND NFIS**

#### **Achievements and Impact**

- Kenani Transit Centre has been decongested through the relocation of 150 households to Kenani Transit Centre 2. Refugees are taking their shelters with them.
- Forty shelters have been constructed in Kenani Transit Centre 2 to host vulnerable persons including the elderly and women headed households. Two cooking hangars are also being constructed for Kenani Transit Centre 2.
- UNHCR has received Core Relief Items for 5,000 persons including 5,000 blankets, 1,000 kitchen sets, 1,000 tarpaulins, 100 family sized tents, 4x50m 100 rolls of plastic sheets, 2,000 jerry cans, 1,000 buckets, 5 units of pre-fabricated rub halls, 5,000 sleeping mats and 2,000 mosquito nets.
- Five hundred reed mats and 500 plastic sheets are being procured as shelter materials for Kenani Transit Centre 2.

#### **Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

- Some 3,000 poles are required for shelter construction in Kenani Transit Centre 2.



**CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT****Achievements and Impact**

- Demarcation of Kenani Transit Centre 2 to construct shelters, latrines, showers and water points is ongoing.
- Weekly meetings will continue to be held by COR, UNHCR, ZRCS with refugee leaders to address issues of concern and to provide information in Kenani Transit Centres 1 and 2.

**Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

- Field visit and assessments have been carried out by potential partners who are considering in engaging in specific sectors including child protection, SGBV management, WASH and camp management.

**DURABLE SOLUTIONS****Achievements and Impact**

- A rapid livelihood's assessment has been conducted (access to market, livelihood opportunities and skills profiles).
- Land for farming opportunities in the longer term settlement area is being negotiated with the Government and local Chief.

**Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps**

- Negotiations on the implementation of out of camp policy with the Government still need further engagements at local and central level.

**Working in partnership**

- UNHCR is currently working with the Government of Zambia and the Zambia Red Cross Society to provide protection and life-saving humanitarian assistance to Congolese refugees. Coordination is taking place in Lusaka, Chiengi District (entry point at the border) and in Nchelenge District (Kenani Transit Centres 1 and 2).
- Partners are being mobilized by UNHCR to establish necessary facilities and infrastructure at Kenani Transit Centre.
- A CERF submission is currently being prepared by various UN agencies who participated in a rapid interagency needs assessment in Luapula Province in September.

## Financial Information

In 2017, UNHCR's financial requirements for Zambia amount to \$13.6 million to protect and meet the needs of people of concern. With the new influx of Congolese asylum-seekers that started in late August, activities are being re-prioritized. To effectively respond to the current emergency, urgent support is needed to provide immediate lifesaving assistance, including food and core-relief items, to new arrivals for an initial three-month period until end December.

### External / Donors Relations

**Special thanks to Japan and the United States of America** for their contributions to UNHCR's operations in Zambia.

#### **Special thanks to UNHCR's major global donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2017**

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# Zambia

as of 03 Oct 2017

