

DREF operation update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Angola: Population Movement

DREF operation n° MDRAO004
Update n° 01
9 December 2009

The International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross and Red Crescent response to emergencies. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of national societies to respond to disasters.

Period covered by this update:
30 October 2009 to 30 November
2009.

Summary:

- CHF 368,693 (USD 361,652 or EUR 243,412) was initially allocated from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 29 October 2009 to support the Angola Red Cross Society (ARC) in delivering assistance to some 2,000 families (10,000 beneficiaries).
- This allocation has been revised to CHF 418,447 (USD 411,371 or EUR 276,971), in response to the increase in local transport costs.



Angola Red Cross training volunteers in Uige

The ECHO has contributed EUR 150,000, while the Netherlands Government and the Netherlands Red Cross have contributed EUR 35,000 (CHF 52,838) towards the replenishment of the DREF allocation made to this operation. The major donors and partners of the DREF include the Danish Red Cross, Irish Red Cross/Irish Government, Japanese Red Cross, Monaco Red Cross/Monaco Government, Netherlands Red Cross/Netherlands Government, Norwegian Red Cross/Norwegian Government, Swedish Red Cross/Swedish Government, Italian government, DFID, ECHO, OPEC Fund for International Development, and corporate and private donors. Details of all donors can be found [here](#).

On 17 October 2009, the Angolan Government/ Ministry of Social Integration (MINARS)¹ announced that more than 39,000 Angolans expelled from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) had arrived in the Cabinda (2,000), Uige (7,800) and Zaire (28,000) Provinces. Authorities from Angola and the DRC have, since September 2009, engaged in the expulsion of thousands of the other's nationals from their respective territories, including irregular migrants, old refugees and asylum seekers. There are approximately 12,600 DRC refugees in Angola and over 120,000 Angolan refugees in DRC.

Findings from the Angola Red Cross (CVA)² rapid assessment indicated that the tide of returning Angolans would remain high, with recent figures showing an increase of returnees in the Uige (17,223) and Zaire (34,000) Provinces. Moreover, the abrupt manner of the returnees' expulsion from the DRC, and the fear of a similar fate from Angolans residing in the DRC, resulted in many deciding to return to Angola permanently. Information garnered from returnees indicate that they were precipitously apprehended and expelled, thus leaving them destitute and separating families, many of whom have lived as refugees in the DRC since the colonial war of 1961 and through the internal conflict in Angola that ended in 2002.

The DREF allocation to assist the CVA was based upon the large number of returnees: the DREF was used to provide aid to the returnees in the form of non-food relief items, emergency shelter, and access to safe water and sanitation facilities. However, through this Operations Update, the appeal budget and timeframe has been revised to cover the cost of local transport for moving relief items from Harare to Angola, and to aid returnees who do not have final destinations or alternative means of accommodation.

This operation has been revised for implementation over a further two months, and will therefore be completed by 31 March 2010. A Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 30 June 2010).

[<click here to view the Revised DREF Budget; or here for contact details>](#)

The situation

On 9 October 2009, OCHA/IOM reported that the causes of the current situation predate 2003; there have been six major waves of expulsions affecting irregular and other migrants from Angola/DRC. Returnees arrived in Angola destitute due to the unexpectedness of the expulsions forcing them to leave their property behind and detaching many children and adults from their families. The Angolan Government/MINARS noted that approximately 50 percent of Angolans expelled by the DRC were children. The expelled/returning Angolans comprise citizens originally from the Zaire (30 percent), Uige (60 percent) and Cabinda, Malange, Huambo, Bié and Luanda (10 percent) provinces, who to refugee in DRC, during the war in Angola. Upon arrival, and following their initial registration, some families relocated to live with family members, while others remained in the transit camps.

On 13 November 2009, OCHA estimated that 51,508 Angolan nationals had been expelled from the DRC. The government and UNHCR estimate that two-thirds of those expelled have refugee status in DRC. At the same time, the government had transported approximately 35,238 people to their areas of origin. Due to the relatively speedy resettlement process, a number of reception camps in Zaire have already been closed, including the Kacilhas, Lendi, Pedra do Feitiço and Fazenda Mama Rosa reception centres. In Uige, the Kituma Centre housed 1,500 returnees en route to their home of origin, while the maternity home at Damba accommodated 6,627 people and the Command Centre at Maquela do Zombo lodged 9,096 people. These returnees receive support from MINARS, CVA and a few other organizations.

The Zaire provincial authorities are establishing a long-term accommodation facility in Zaire M'banza Magina, a former repatriation camp site, for returnees with no final destination. This site will accommodate 800 families (4,000 persons). The families will reside in UNHCR tents for up to six months; after which they will be moved to permanent structures on plots (15 x 20m) that each family is to receive. The Government also aims to construct permanent structures and latrines. A hectare of land, with sufficient land for additional expansion, has been cleared to accommodate the first 28 tents of the 1,688 allocated to Zaire Province and donated by UNHCR. Thus far, the provincial Department of Urban and Environmental Planning has prepared ten pit latrines. Another two areas will be cleared for 20 and 50 families respectively.

¹ Ministério da Reinserção Social

² Cruz Vermelha de Angola

With the majority of the expelled population now transported to their areas of origin in Zaire Province, authorities have begun focusing on three main activities:

- the transportation of the remaining population to more distant destinations;
- local support for reintegration into local communities; and
- reinforced communications and capacity at border crossings.

The Angolan Government has reported problems of access to the remote border areas such as Kimbumba and Pedra do Feitiço at Soyo, Buena and Mingo near Cuimba and Noqui due to poor road conditions made worse by the rains that started in late October. In northern Uige Province, at Maquela do Zumbo, restricted access has led to the lack of concrete data on the vulnerabilities. A team of government/provincial staff are attempting to gain access to the area for the purposes of registration and facilitation. The Angolan Government has requested the re-activation of the tripartite mechanism between the governments of the DRC and Angola and the UNHCR, in order to organize the repatriation of an estimated 60,000 Angolan refugees still in the DRC. In addition, the Angolan government intends to resume the repatriation of Angolans still in Zambia (25,000), Namibia (6,000) and the Republic of Congo (2,000)

Table 1: The location of registered incoming returnees along the border with the DRC

Province (Municipality)	Place	Estimated Registrations as at 16 November 2009
Zaire (M'Banza Congo)	Lendi, Kachilas, Buena	14,732
Zaire (M'Banza Congo) - Luvo	Fazenda Mama Rosa	19,436
Zaire (Noqui)	Noqui	3,751
Zaire (Soyo)	Pedra de Fetiso	1,223
Zaire Provincial Capital	Soyo	519
North East Zaire	Quimba	No information Available
Registered Incoming Returnees: Zaire Province	--	39,661
Uige (Uige city)	Kituma	17,840
Uige (Damba)	En route to Kituma	6,500
Uige (Maquela do Zumbo)	--	Not accessible as yet. A government team is on the way to establish dates
Registered Incoming Returnees: Uige Province	--	24,340
Cabinda	--	2,638
Total Registered incoming Returnees	--	66,639

MINARS: published 16 November 2009.

Note: Information from OCHA indicates the number of registered incoming returnees to be approximately: Zaire: 31,647; Uige: 17,223; Cabinda: 2,638; with a total of 51,508 returnees.

Table 2: The location of registered returnees leaving camps along the border with the DRC

Province (Municipality)	Place	Estimated Registrations as at 16 November 2009
Zaire (Mbanza Congo)	Lendi, Kachilas, Buena	No information Available
Zaire (M'Banza Congo) - Luvo	Fazenda Mama Rosa	17,243
Zaire (Noqui)	Noqui	2,387
Zaire (Soyo)	Pedra de Fetiso	1,223
Zaire Provincial Capital	Soyo	519
North East Zaire	Quimba	13,866
Registered Returnees Leaving Zaire Province	--	35,238
Uige (Uige city)	Kituma	1,720
Uige (Damba)	En route to Kituma	6,500
Uige (Maquela do Zumbo)	--	Not accessible due to the heavy rains and lack of communication.
Registered Returnees Leaving Uige Province	--	8,220
Cabinda	--	2,638
Total Registered Returnees Leaving	--	46,096

MINARS: published 16 November 2009.

Coordination and partnerships

MINARS has led the provision of humanitarian assistance to returnees, with the Director of the Humanitarian Affairs Unit and the National Director coordinating relief operations with provincial authorities in Zaire and Uige respectively. Working groups, chaired by line ministries, were established in late October and UN focal points and NGOs were invited to collaborate with MINARS.

ARC is present and operating in Uige, and is part of the coordination at National and Provincial level for humanitarian assistance, where MINARS is responsible for camp management and all logistic services involved. Agencies and NGOs with regular access to the reception centres include: ARC, UN Agencies, ICRC, Mentol Initiative, Caritas in Angola, OXFAM and Save the Children.

Activities under the coordinated response include:

Agriculture: FAO is supporting the Ministry of Agriculture with the development of a programme to assist returnees with seeds and agricultural tools at their areas of origin. Planting is currently taking place in the north and the seasonal rains are expected in February 2010.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene: The Angolan army is installing latrines to address the poor water and sanitation situation in the Fazenda Mama Rosa reception camp. UNICEF is providing water treatment programmes and equipment. To date, chlorine tablets, baby formula bottles, water bladders, latrine slabs and soap have been distributed. In addition, UNICEF is providing mothers with bottles of high-concentrate chlorine for household water treatment. UNICEF is currently preparing a second shipment of supplies, which will be distributed following the conclusion of the needs assessment.

Education: The Angolan Ministry of Education plans to assist with the integration of children and teachers and has requested the assistance of the Embassy of France in this sector. Modalities for the educational support required will be discussed further with the French to address the needs of returnee children who do not speak Portuguese. In addition, UNHCR plans, in partnership with an implementing partner, to carry out Portuguese language training for returnees to facilitate integration. There are no currently education activities in the reception centres in Zaire province. Furthermore, in the DRC, the academic year began in September while in Angola it will end in late November. This poses challenges to the reintegration of returnee children into the Angolan educational system.

Food and Nutrition: The Government is distributing food to the population at the reception centres. However, according to assessments in the Kiowa and Fazenda Mama Rosa centres in Zaire province, the quantity of food does not always meet daily calorie and protein needs.

Health: In general, returnees are in good health, although some cases of malaria were fatal and skin diseases and diarrhoea have been reported. All children in the camps have been de-wormed, administered with vitamin A and inoculated as required.

The reception centres in Zaire province provide basic health services and receive drug supplies from the Government. Difficult cases are referred to the M'banza Congo hospital. The army continues to support Fazenda Mama Rosa, the largest reception centre, with medical staff and medicines. While the Kiowa health post provides 24-hour coverage with two nurses, it does not meet the required health standards, lacks basic facilities including an ambulance and beds, and the staff are overstretched.

Logistics: Although warehouses are filling up with donated goods, distribution is slow. Non-food items, including jerry cans, need to be urgently distributed to the people remaining in the camps; however, MINARS has created a Government Commission that is responsible for all distributions. It is unclear whether people returning to their areas of origin will be provided with a relief assistance package.

Cross-Cluster/Sector challenges: Zaire province runs the risk of a potential gender-based furore, since all health staff and reception centre managers are men who are also responsible for food distribution. If not addressed, the potential for sexual exploitation and abuse exists, and women's health needs may not be adequately addressed. Similarly, there is a need to make general information more accessible to all, especially for those who cannot read, and non-Portuguese speakers. The majority of returnees speak Kikongo or Lingala (DRC dialects) whereas information is provided in Portuguese.

More intervention is needed on HIV and AIDS prevention in the centres. The ARC is the only partner holding workshops and distributing leaflets on this issue, along with health kits containing a small number of condoms.

Protection: The joint UN/government assessment missions and gap analysis have identified a significant gap in family reunification. The government confirmed that many returnees were separated from their family members as a result of the expulsions and informed UNHCR that those returnees with spouses or other family members left in DRC often try to return in an attempt to bring family members back from the DRC into Angola. Often, however, they find that their houses have been ransacked and are charged US\$ 65 per person to cross the border, placing an additional financial burden on them and complicating family reunification. Family reunification in cases of mixed marriages (one Angolan and one Congolese spouse) is of particular concern.

Funding: The Angolan Government is expected to allocate supplementary funding to the response. Humanitarian partners are considering launching an appeal to support the residual caseload in camps and the most vulnerable returnees who have left the camps. The UN Country team, along with the Angolan Government, is expected to launch an appeal in support of the returnees.

The ARC is supported and guided by the IFRC country representative and the disaster management (DM) department at the IFRC Southern Africa sub-Zone Office. The National Society has also collaborated with MINARS in the registration of beneficiaries and provided assistance with the supply and distribution of basic shelter and hygiene items. ARC also collaborates with the ICRC to conduct beneficiary registration for the restoration of family links at the various reception areas, as well as to conduct mine awareness campaigns. Joint rapid emergency assessments will be conducted with the ICRC and DM coordinator. Partnerships and collaboration are sought with other agencies providing support towards this intervention.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Zaire branch of ARC has mobilized 52 volunteers to assist in the reception camps along the Zaire/DRC border (Mama Rosa, Kiowa, Kasilia; Noqui town, Kimbumba and Pedra de feitiço), while the Uige branch mobilized 17 volunteers to assist in the reception camps along the Uige/DRC border (Damba, Samza Pombo, Kituma, Quimbele). The 17 volunteers from Uige and 33 volunteers from Zaire received refresher training in emergency response, community health and tracing.

Health education sessions were conducted in six reception camps in Zaire, reaching 11,573 beneficiaries (6,851 women, 3,429 men and 1,283 children) and six reception camps in Uige, reaching 981 beneficiaries (412 Women, 312 men and 257 children). The sessions covered basic health and hygiene, and HIV and AIDS prevention. Health educational materials were also distributed in the camps and communities.

First Aid was provided in 858 cases, of which 497 were injuries, 281 were diarrheal, eight were epileptic episodes, 43 had severe headaches and 29 were referred to public health facilities. The ARC volunteers also support and provide basic health care to four very old and vulnerable returnees at the Kiowa Camp

A total of 212 home visits were conducted in the at three reception centres of Mama Rosa (106), Kiowa (71), and Kasilia (35). In addition, the volunteers also operate as auxiliary to the health staff at the health posts in the three abovementioned camps. Only 12 tracing messages were issued, while mine risk education was prioritized and community sensitization training was provided in the camp, before departure to final destinations.

Progress towards objectives

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Objective: Provide relief items for 2,000 returning families in the Zaire, Uige and Cabinda provinces for a period of three months.

Activities planned:

- Conduct joint rapid emergency needs and capacity assessments.
- Mobilise volunteers to support rapid assessments and relief distributions.
- Distribute relief supplies including kitchen kits and blankets to 2,000 families, and control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user.
- Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions.
- Ensure distributions are carried out according to assessments and selection criteria that identify actual needs and vulnerable groups.

- Develop an exit strategy.

Progress and impact:

ARC conducted a vulnerability rapid assessment in the relocation camps and, based on the findings and analysis, requested for DREF to support 2,000 families. An advocacy mission met with local authorities to facilitate ARC activities and to provide training to Red Cross volunteers in order to respond to certain transitional situations resulting in the reception camps.

ARC recruited and trained 52 volunteers in Zaire and 17 volunteers in Uige to assist in the emergency response activities. During this period, blankets and kitchen sets were distributed to 2,470 families in Zaire (1,300), Uige (1,100) and Bengo (70).

Challenges:

The constant seasonal rainfall in the north of Angola has led to major difficulties in reaching communities due to potholed roads and non-operational airstrips/airports. The cost of transport from the border of Namibia to Angola and from Harare to Angola remains exorbitant. Roads need improvement as many villages are rendered inaccessible as rains have started. Displaced people from the DRC, in places such as Maquela do Zumbo where many people are in transit camps, are only accessible via helicopter. During the installation of the reception/transit camps, seven deaths occurred, possibly due to malnutrition and old age.



Distribution of relief items in Damba

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Objective: Reduce the risk of waterborne and water-related diseases through the provision of safe water supply and adequate sanitation to 2,000 families in two provinces (Zaire and Uige) for a period of three months.

Activities planned:

- Assess the existing coverage with a view of ensuring availability of an adequate water supply.
- Provide access to safe water to 2,000 families, focusing on the provision of jerry cans and hydrochloride tablets, and training in its usage.
- Conduct training for Red Cross volunteers on the safe use of water treatment products (e.g. chlorination tablets).

Progress and impact:

In Uige and Zaire provinces, 154,000 water purification sachets and 14,000 oral rehydration solutions (ORS) were distributed to 12,000 beneficiaries. The ARC volunteers were trained to mitigate community health emergencies by increased knowledge on primary health.

In collaboration with OXFAM, ARC has undertaken the maintenance and cleaning of water points in Kiowa camp, and conducted 34 clean-up campaigns on latrines at the Kiowa and Kasilia reception camps and six clean-up campaigns on latrines in Uige reception camps.

Challenges:

This emergency response being the first of its kind in the province of Zaire, difficulties have been encountered in adapting to the reality of the new work. A lack of information and a tendency for closed door politics in general on behalf of the authorities, exacerbate matters.

Emergency Shelter

Objective: Provide safe and adequate shelter to 2,000 families in three provinces so that they are living in a healthy environment within three months of the beginning of the operation.

Activities planned:

- Assess the extent of the shelter needs and preferred solutions.
- Distribute shelter kits, tarpaulins, kitchen sets, hygiene kits, jerry cans, bed covers/blankets, second-hand clothing and mosquito nets to 2,000 families in three provinces.
- Provide National Society staff, volunteers and each household with technical assistance and guidance in the construction of the agreed shelter design.

Progress and impact:

Distribution of Relief Items	Zaire	Uige	Bengo	Total Distributions
Mosquito nets	--	--	--	--
Jerry cans (rigid)	1,300	171	200	1,671
Kitchen sets	550	82	23	655
Tarpaulins	1,100	350	100	1,550
Shelter kits	700	190	27	917
Laundry soap	--	--	--	--
ORS	14,000	--	--	14,000
Water purification tablets	130,000	24,000	--	154,000
Blankets (Medium Thermal)	--	--	--	--
Number of beneficiary families	1,300	1,100	70	2,470

Within the period of this report, 23 tents were erected in the Kiowa, Lendi and Noqui camps and 190 tents were erected in Sanza Pombo and Damba



Tents erected to shelter returnees in the reception camps

How we work

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGO's\) in Disaster Relief](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response](#) (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- **In Angola:** Walter Bombo Guange Quifica, Secretary General, Email: <mailto:vquifica@yahoo.com>; Phone: Tel Office: +244.222.39.32.84; Mobile: +244.92.23.13.242; Fax +244.222.372.868
- **In Angola:** Karen Hvid: Federation Representative: Email: Karen.hvid@ifrc.org; Phone: Tel: +244.923.408.577; Fax: +244.222.372.868
- **In IFRC Southern Africa Zone:** Disaster Management Unit: Farid Aiywar, Disaster Management Coordinator; Email: farid.aiywar@ifrc.org; Phone: Tel: +27.11.303.9700; +27.11.303.9721; Mobile: +27.83.440.0564; Fax: +27.11.884.3809, +27.11.884.0230
- **In IFRC Southern Africa Zone:** Françoise Le Goff, Head of Zone, Johannesburg; Email: francoise.legoff@ifrc.org; Phone: Tel: +27.11.303.9700, +27.11.303.9711; Fax: +27.11.884.3809, +27.11.884.0230

For performance and accountability enquiries:

- **In IFRC Southern Africa:** Theresa Takavarasha; Performance and Accountability Manager, Johannesburg; Email: terrie.takavarasha@ifrc.org; Phone: Tel: +27.11.303.9700; Mobile: +27.83.413.3061; Fax: +27.11.884.3809; +27.11.884.0230

For mobilization of relief items and Logistics inquiries:

- **Regional Logistic Unit in Dubai;** Peter Gleniste; Regional Logistics Coordinator; Email: peter.gleniste@ifrc.org; Phone: Tel: +971 4883 3887 Fax: +27.11.884.3809; +27.11.884.0230

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ANGOLA POPULATION MOVEMENT REVISED BUDGET

	ORIGINAL
<u>RELIEF NEEDS</u>	
Shelter	133,480
Clothing & Textiles	38,000
Food	0
Seeds & Plants	0
Water & Sanitation	8,000
Medical & First Aid	0
Teaching Materials	0
Utensils & Tools	74,480
Other Supplies & Services	1,025
Total Relief Needs	254,985
<u>CAPITAL EQUIPMENT</u>	
Land & Buildings	0
Vehicles Purchase	0
Computers & Telecom Equipment	0
Medical Equipment	0
Other Machinery & Equipment	0
<u>TRANSPORT, STORAGE & VEHICLES</u>	
Storage - Warehouse	106,744
Transport & Vehicles Costs	5,000
<u>PERSONNEL</u>	
International Staff	0
Volunteer Incentives	13,020
Consultants	0
<u>WORKSHOPS & TRAINING</u>	
Workshops & Training	0
<u>GENERAL EXPENSES</u>	
Travel	2,000
Information & Public Relations	2,000
Office running costs	3,000
Communication Costs	2,000
Professional Fees	0
Core cost & sundry	2,500
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>	
Programme Support - PSR	27,199
Total Operational Needs	163,463
Total Appeal Budget (Cash & Kind)	418,447