

UNHCR/WFP JOINT ASSESSMENT MISSION Zambia



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
List of Mission Members	3
List of Acronyms	4
Executive Summary	5
1.0 Introduction	7
2.0 Rationale of the Assessment	7
1.0 Methodology	7
2.0 Background	8
3.0 Main Findings	11
3.1 Population Demographics	11
3.2 Relations with Host Communities	12
3.3 Registration Process	13
3.4 Health and Nutrition	14
3.5 Water and Sanitation	17
3.6 Education	18
3.7 Non-food Supplies	22
3.8 The Environment In and Around the Camps	23
3.9 Protection and Security	24
3.10 Gender Issues and Concerns	24
3.11 Partnerships and Coordination Mechanisms	26
3.12 Livelihood and Food Security	27
3.12.1 Food Assistance	27
3.12.2 Agricultural Production	32
3.12.3 Main Livelihood Activities	37

LIST OF MISSION MEMBERS

NAME	AGENCY/ORG	TITLE	PROFESSION
Ms Mutinta Hambayi	WFP, Regional Bureau, Johannesburg	Regional Programme Advisor (Nutritionist)	Nutritionist
Mr Edward Moyo	WFP, Zambia	Head of Sub-Office	Sociologist/ Economist
Mr Kaira Washington	UNHCR, Zambia	Assistant Programme Officer	Financial Analyst
Mr Allan Mulando	WFP, Zambia	Senior Programme Assistant PPVA/VAM	Geo-informatics/ VA Specialist
Mr Andrzej Golebiowski	WFP, Regional Bureau, Johannesburg	Junior Programme Officer	VAM Officer
Mr Hugo Mlewah	WFP, Malawi	Senior Programme Assistant Refugee Operation	Agriculturalist
Ms Lia Pozzi	WFP, Zambia	Assistant Programme Officer	Economist
Mr Kaima Malindi	MHA-COR, Lusaka	Program Officer	Public Administration
Mr Emmanuel Ngulube	USAID, Zambia	Food Aid Monitor for Food For Peace Programme	Agricultural Economist
Mr Joachim Mumba	CORD, Lusaka	Program Officer	Social Worker

LIST OF ACRONYMS

AAH	Afrika Aktion Hilfe
ART	Ante-Retro Viral Therapy
ARV	Ante-Retro Viral
COR	Commissioner for Refugees
CORD	Christian Outreach Relief and Development
DHMT	District Health Management Team
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
EB	Executive Board
EDP	Extended Delivery Point
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FDP	Final Distribution Point
FRA	Food Reserve Agency
FSP	Fertiliser Support Programme
GRZ	Government of the Republic of Zambia
HBC	Home Based Care
HDR	Humanitarian Daily Ration
HEPS	High Energy Protein Supplement
HH	Household
IGA	Income Generating Activity
IP	Implementing Partner
JAM	Joint Assessment Mission
LCMS	Living Conditions Monitoring Survey
MACO	Ministry of Agriculture and Co-operatives
MHA	Ministry of Home Affairs
MLC	Mouvement de Libération du Congo
NFI	Non Food Item
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
PLWHA	People Living with HIV and AIDS
PMTCT	Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission
PSU	Primary Sampling Unit
PRRO	Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation
QIP	Quick Impact Project
RCD	Rassemblement Congolais pour la Démocratie
SGBV	Sexual and Gender Based Violence
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infection
UN	United Nations
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children Found
UNITA	União Nacional para a Independência Total de Angola
VCT	Voluntary Counselling and Testing
WFP	World Food Programme
WVI	World Vision International
WVZ	World Vision Zambia
ZOCS	Zambia Open Community Schools
ZRCS	Zambia Red Cross Society

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Joint Assessment Mission, conducted by WFP and UNHCR, with the participation of GRZ, Donors and NGO partners, aimed at assessing the food security, level of self-reliance, food and non-food needs among camp based refugees. The following are the main findings and recommendations made by the mission:

Of the current countrywide refugee population of 118,109, 64,065 are accommodated in camps/settlements. In May 2007, 57,090 refugees were receiving WFP food assistance. However, food aid is not the only source of food for most of the refugees: in the settlements, most of the refugees that are still receiving food aid are involved in viable livelihood activities ranging from small scale businesses to commercial farming. However, in the predominantly Congolese camps of Mwange and Kala, where access to land is limited, of the total food consumed, 40% comes from food aid, 40% from agricultural production and 20% from purchases.

In the predominantly Angolan settlements of Mayukwayukwa and Meheba, most of the refugee households engage in agriculture as main source of food and income as they have very good access to land. However, the previous focus on agriculture or own production as the main source of livelihood substantially underestimated the existing level and viable alternative sources of income: activities such as fishing, retailing, tailoring, and sale of labor within settlements and with the host communities contribute significantly to incomes.

In Mayukwayukwa, according to the harvest prospects, up to 75% of households have sufficient food stocks to last until the next harvest even though refugees who were relocated to Mayukwayukwa from Nangweshi at the near end of the agriculture season faced some limitations. Therefore, the mission recommends that all able bodied refugees be removed from food lists with the exception of the Nangweshi caseload, which should be re-verified on a continuous basis so that those who achieve self-reliance are weaned off food assistance.

In Meheba, the production is above average, with a high level of cash crop production (rice and sweet potatoes) and an impressive mixed/horticultural cropping and small livestock rearing. Therefore, the mission recommends that all non-vulnerable caseloads be removed from food lists.

In the Kala and Mwange camps, access to land is limited. Therefore, the level of production is smaller than in the settlements, refugees should continue receiving assistance until they repatriate.

The provision of health services is generally adequate, although the clinics are under-staffed due to financial constraints. The common illnesses are fever, diarrhoea, Upper Respiratory Tract Infections, pneumonia, worm infestation, TB and HIV. The supply of drugs at the time of the mission was erratic for 6-9 months prior to the assessment, as a result of a national shortage, especially in Mayukwayukwa. Among Angolan refugees wishing to repatriate, the continued source and supply of ARVs in their rural places of origin was a real concern. Others opted either not to return or not to start ARVs for fear of discontinuation and the perceived consequences once one interrupts medication schedule.

Community schools in the settlements are generally facing a scarce involvement of the community and erratic funding by UNHCR. The Basic School in Mayukwayukwa is currently experiencing over enrollment especially as it is hosting an additional number of pupils relocated from Nangweshi camp.

In the Northern camps, students returning to DRC are provided with all the necessary documentation to be accepted in school once in DRC.

In general, the lack of UNHCR assistance for non-food items has put an enormous pressure on food rations provided by WFP. Selling or bartering part of the rations with non food items is an extremely common coping strategy among the refugees.

1.0 Introduction

1. The WFP/UNHCR Joint Assessment Mission of the refugee assistance in Zambia was conducted from 7th May to 22nd May 2007. The mission included representatives from WFP, UNHCR, Ministry of Home Affairs, USAID and implementing partners working in the camps and settlements respectively. The mission visited all four refugee designated sites namely Mayukwayukwa, Meheba, Kala and Mwange.

2.0 Rationale of the Assessment

2. The last Joint Assessment Mission was carried out from 30th January 2006 to 17th February 2006 in all the refugee camps and settlements in Zambia, after which WFP continued to provide food assistance for some 69,000 refugees through PRRO 10071.2 "Food Assistance for Refugees from Democratic Republic of Congo and Angola", which was approved by the EB for 24 months "January 2006 – December 2007". However, the number of food beneficiaries has reduced to the current 57,500 as a result of the voluntary repatriation of Angolan refugees and phase-out of some refugees from Meheba and Mayukwayukwa settlements as recommended by the JAM in 2006.

3. The voluntary repatriation of Angolan refugees from Nangweshi, Mayukwayukwa and Meheba continued until January 2007. Some 10,090 Angolan refugees were repatriated during August 2006 – January 2007. As a result, Nangweshi refugee camp in Shang'ombo District of Western Province was closed and the residual caseload (4,971) were relocated to Mayukwayukwa refugee settlement.

4. The two-year refugee food assistance project (2006-2007)¹ which was approved by WFP on 9 September 2005 covering all the sites ends on 31st December 2007; the Government has requested WFP for assistance for 2008 and 2009 for the remaining refugee caseload. Furthermore, with varying rainfall intensities experienced during the 2006/07 rainy season that affected most parts of the country including districts where the designated refugee sites (Meheba, Mayukwayukwa, Kala and Mwange) are, there were fears that refugee households who had attained self reliance could have been severely affected and may be in need of assistance. It was agreed by both WFP and UNHCR to undertake a JAM in April 2007, the outcome of which provides the basis of new proposals for assistance for the period 2008/09 to be submitted to Donors.

3.0 Methodology

5. The JAM covered the four designated refugee sites in the country, with a focus on: i) food security and livelihood possibilities of the refugees that will include food assistance, agriculture production, markets, IGAs, coping mechanisms and

¹ Food Assistance to Refugees from Democratic Republic of Congo and Angola, PRRO 10071.2 (2006-2007)

social networks; ii) health and nutrition; iii) water and sanitation; iv) education; v) non-food supplies; vi) environment; vii) protection and security; viii) gender issues.

6. The assessment employed both the qualitative and quantitative data collection approaches. The sampling frame which has been used for the quantitative approach was developed from the 2007 beneficiary statistics of the four (4) refugee camps/settlements. Under the quantitative approach, the assessment covered 983 households out of 1,150 planned households representing 85.5% coverage. These target households were selected using a two stage sampling approach. The first stage involved household listing within the Primary Sampling Unit (PSU) which was the camp and/or settlement. The second stage involved interviews with household heads from selected households. Within the same selected households, anthropometric measurements for under-five children were obtained to determine their nutrition status. The information was used as a proxy of the nutrition situation in the entire study population in the assessed camps and settlements. The sample was stratified according to the different groups described above for a holistic understanding of the differences in the refugees.

7. Under the qualitative approach, participatory data collection methods were employed as outlined below:

- 1) *Key Informants Interviews:* Data was collected from meetings with key informants in WFP/UNHCR sub-offices, NGO partners, refugee leaders, Government Officials and key donors.
- 2) *Focus Group Discussion:* A number of Focus Group Discussions were held with refugees at different facilities such as health centres, agriculture fields, and community halls etc.
- 3) *Desk Reviews:* The mission undertook a desk review of relevant program documents, survey reports as well as data collected by the mission itself.
- 4) *Intelligent observations/Inspections/Transect Walks:* The mission visited health, water and sanitation facilities, households, schools, income generating activities, and local markets in each camp/settlement. The mission inspected extended delivery points (EDP), final distribution points (FDP) and storage facilities of food and non-food items.

4.0 Background

8. The Government of the Republic of Zambia (GRZ) has maintained an open-door policy and consistently granted asylum to populations seeking refuge. For 30 years, Zambia hosted refugees fleeing conflicts in Angola and the Great Lakes Region in Central Africa, specifically in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda and Burundi. During the 1982/1983 and 1999/2002 peak periods, more than 200,000 refugees were assisted in the country.

9. The current level of refugees hosted by Zambia stands at 118,109 of which 53,609 are self settled in urban areas and in villages along border areas, while

64,500 are hosted in 4 designated sites namely Kala (Kawambwa district, Luapula Province,) and Mwange (Mporokoso district , Northern Province,), Meheba (Solwezi district, North Western province) and Mayukwayukwa (Kaoma district, Western Province,) refugee settlements.

10. Majority of refugees in camps and settlement are from DRC (67.9%), followed by Angolans (28.6%), 3% are Rwandese, 0.4% Burundians while the rest are from other nationalities (0.1%) as shown in Figure 1:

Fig. 1: Refugees' Camp Population by Country of Origin

Camp	Angola	Burundi	DR Congo	Rwanda	Others	Total
Kala	-	-	19,058	-	-	19,058
Mwange	-	-	21,319	-	-	21,319
Meheba	8,460	170	3,172	1,813	100	13,715
Mayukwayukwa	9,989	73	226	84	36	10,408
Camp total	18,449	243	43,775	1,897	136	64,500

Source: UNHCR Records, Apr 2007

11. The arrival of refugees in Zambia took place in several phases over the years. From the 1960s as the struggle for liberation and independence intensified, thousands of Angolans, the majority from rural areas, continued to stream into neighboring countries. The first settlement to be established was Mayukwayukwa, in 1966, making it the oldest settlement in Zambia and one of the oldest in Africa. Later in 1971, Meheba was opened. Throughout this period, Zambia was both a country of asylum to many refugees and leaders of regional peace initiatives:

12. At the same time, Zambia played a very important political role particularly in the landmark agreement between the Angolan government and UNITA, signed in Lusaka in November 1994. This consequently paved the way for a government of national reconciliation and set the foundation for lasting peace in Angola. The voluntary repatriation exercise for Angolan refugees started in July 2003 and continued through to January 2007. During this period some 73,800 Angolan refugees were repatriated, leaving about 42,000 refugees in Zambia (18,000 are in designated sites while the 24,000 are spontaneously settled in border villages and towns). However, UNHCR, in consultation with the governments hosting Angolan refugees, is considering the application of a "Cessation Clause" by end of 2007.

13. After attaining independence from Belgium in 1960, the DRC (formerly Zaire) continued to face political insecurity that culminated in a civil war in 1997. Despite diplomatic initiatives, including the 1999 Lusaka Peace Accord and cease-fire agreement, pro and anti-government forces continued to engage in armed conflict. At this time, Mwange (Luapula Province) and Kala (Northern Province) camps were open in March 1999 and in August 2000.

In 2003, belligerent factions agreed on power-sharing terms and installed a transitional government: the DRC government (supported by Zimbabwe, Angola and Namibia), the RCD-Goma (supported by Rwanda) and the MLC (supported by Uganda). Nonetheless, a fragile transitional government and divided military forces continued to impede the national and regional reconciliation process and fighting continued in eastern DRC. Security still remains a major problem, despite the presence of the largest UN peacekeeping mission in the world.

14. The DRC held its first democratic elections in more than 45 years on 30th July 2006, which was impressive taking into account the complexity of the process in a country emerging from prolonged armed conflicts. This development is vital for the continent as whole as the potential rewards of peace and stability in DRC are high. Restructuring the economy and addressing issues of capacity-building are of particular importance if the new government is to effect meaningful change for its people.

15. Based on the current political and socio-economic situation in DRC, especially after the successful parliamentary and presidential elections, a Tripartite Agreement for voluntary repatriation of refugees from DRC was signed in Lusaka on 28th November 2006. The voluntary repatriation of refugees from DRC started in May 2007 and UNHCR is optimistic that the planned 20,000 would be repatriated in 2007.

16. Refugees from Rwanda and Burundi in Zambia, who constitute about 4% of the total refugee population, despite continuous calls for their repatriation, have failed to indicate their intention to return to their countries of origin. Other durable solutions, such as local integration, should be taken into consideration for these groups.

17. Under PRRO 10071.02, Zambia is one of five pilot countries where WFP has assumed responsibility for the direct management of food distribution previously handled by UNHCR. Since 1st January 2004, the pilot project has allowed WFP to assume greater control while maximizing its comparative advantage to handle available resources in a more efficient and cost-effective way. The operation has improved in a number of ways: reduction in days required for distribution by 30-50 percent, improved control over beneficiary numbers, improved stock control measures and reduced losses, greater transparency in distribution and streamlined distribution modalities in all camps/settlements.

18. WFP is working with the Government of Zambia, UNHCR, IOM, CORD, World Vision and International Federation of the Red Cross. These implementing and complementary partners have played a crucial role especially with regard to assessments, identification of beneficiaries and management of projects and programs. Partnership and Cooperation in the field achieved positive results in verifying/updating of food beneficiaries' lists and joint participation in monitoring food distributions, ensuring better control over resources as well as greater transparency in distribution.

5.0 MAIN FINDINGS

5.1 Population Demographics

19. From the household survey that was conducted during the mission, the household size across the camps ranges between 1 and 18 with an average household size of 5.2 members. This family size is exactly as the national average which stands at 5.2 (LCMS Report, 2004).

20. Furthermore, out of 983 refugee households interviewed in all the visited camps and/or settlement, 69% were male headed. The largest proportion of female headed households is in Meheba (40%), where among the Angolan and Rwandese communities, the female headed households was 60% and 49% respectively. In general, the percentage of female headed households is considerably higher than the Zambian average of around 22% (LCMS Report, 2004).

21. Of the 983 households interviewed, 48% of the household heads are aged between 19-39 years while 44% are aged between 40 and 59 years respectively. Those who are 60 years and above are 7% and they vary between 2% (Kala) to 17% (Meheba), while the household heads aged between 16-18 range from 1% (Mayukwayukwa and Kala) to 4% (Meheba), representing 2% of the total households interviewed.

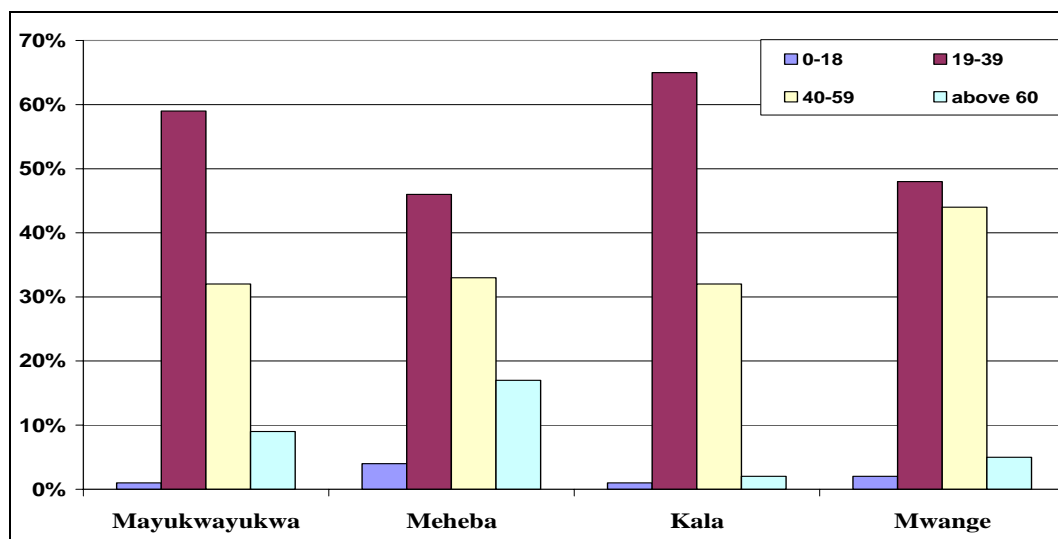


Fig.2: Age of Household Heads (per camp)

22. Considering the different national groups, the majority of the household heads are aged between 19-39 years (i.e. from 48% among the Angolans to 60% among the other nationalities²). Those who are 60 years and above are between 4% among the Congolese to 15% among the Angolans. Among the Rwandese and Burundese refugees, 8% of the household heads are aged 18 and below.

²As the two main groups in the camps are represented by Angolan and Congolese refugees, by the expression "other nationalities" it is meant refugees not belonging to these two national groups. The most prominent nationality among the "others" is the Rwandans, together with Burundese, Sudanese and Somali.

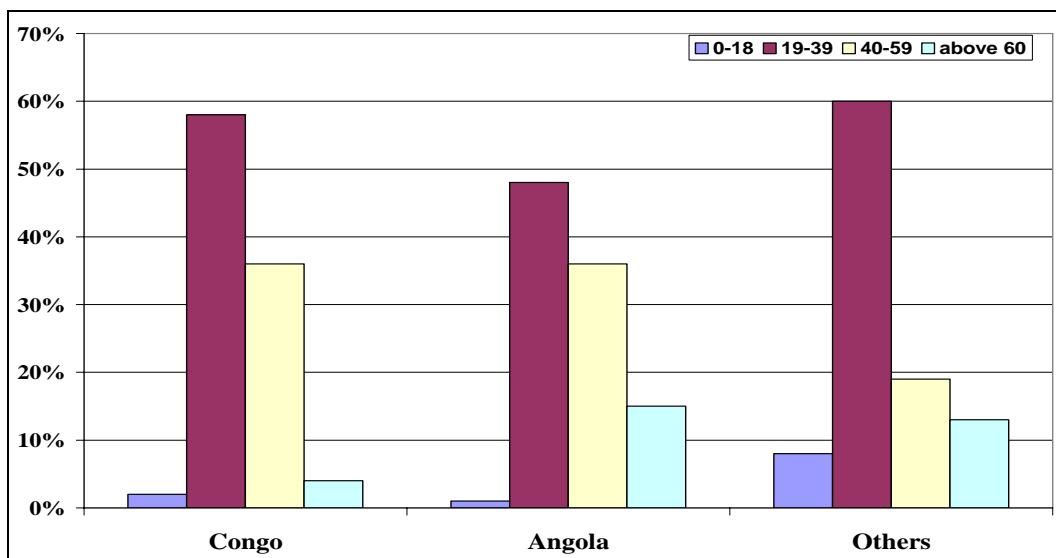


Fig.3: Age of Household Heads (per nationality)

23. As regards the marital status of the refugees interviewed, the vast majority (72%) are married, while 12% are either separated or divorced. It should be noted that in Meheba a high proportion of refugees (19%) reported having lost a spouse. This percentage is predominantly high among the Rwandese and the Angolans. In particular, 30% among the Rwandese (70% of these being women) and 23% among the Angolans (all of these being women) reported having lost a spouse.

5.2 Relations with Host Communities

24. The relations between the refugees and the Zambian host communities are in general very good. This is particularly true for Mayukwayukwa and Meheba, where there is a high degree of interaction between the two groups, with a high extent of inter-group trading inside and outside the settlements.

25. Exchange of labor exists in all sites, and undertaking piecework in the nearby Zambian villages is considered as one of the most viable sources of income by the refugees.

26. The sharing of health facilities is very common: the clinics in the camps attend to both refugees and the local Zambians. Serious cases affecting refugees are referred to the district hospitals. UNHCR has been donating essential medicines to Kawambwa District Hospital, and has also assisted in hospital renovation and maintenance.

27. There is interaction between refugees and hosting communities even in the field of education, particularly in Mayukwayukwa and in Meheba, where some schools are under the Zambian Ministry of Education and refugee and Zambian pupils access the same facilities. In the northern camps, where schools follow the Congolese curriculum, HODI facilitates non formal education through programs addressed both to refugees and Zambians.

28. Some assistance has been provided to Zambian communities surrounding the camps. For example, around Kala, communal facilities such as primary school classrooms were built under the Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) in 2000 and 2001. In the year 2001, UNHCR renovated Kalabwe basic school in Mwange, which is about 5 kilometers away from the camp and is hosting Zambian pupils. Furthermore, in order to assist the host communities with the supply of water, 4 boreholes were sunk in the villages between Mporokoso and Mwange camp.

5.3 Registration Process

29. The Government of the Republic of Zambia (GRZ), through the Ministry of Home Affairs, Office of the Commissioner for Refugees (MHA-COR) handles registration and data management in the camps/settlements. The refugee cards are issued by UNHCR.

30. In general, there have been no new arrivals coming from conflict zones into the camps. Furthermore, small influxes of spontaneously settled refugees from Lusaka have of late been referred to the camps.

31. The Northern camps have recently experienced a number of locally integrated refugees that moved into the camps from the nearby areas. The GRZ has not registered them yet and they have therefore not been receiving any food assistance. This decision was made to discourage a new influx of refugees into the camps which could have a negative impact on the repatriation process as it could be interpreted by the refugees themselves as a sign of new tensions in DRC.

32. A serious concern observed by the mission was the late registration of new born babies, the process that can take up to 6 months. Although the delay in registration varies from camp to camp, it was found to be particularly high in Kala.

33. A thorough verification exercise of the refugee population, recommended by the 2006 JAM, was completed in July/August 2006 and accordingly, the number of food beneficiaries was reduced from 69,152 in June to 59,900 in October 2006. Moreover, ID cards in Meheba and Nangweshi were replaced with new family cards in July 2006. In Kala and Mwange, the WFP ration cards have been introduced.

Recommendations on Registration Process

- Monthly verification exercises of the food beneficiaries should be conducted during food distribution in all camps/settlements.
- Food beneficiary lists should be updated on a monthly basis accordingly.
- New born babies should be registered during these monthly exercises to reduce the observed delays.

5.4 Health and Nutrition

34. Health and nutrition formed a major part of the Joint Assessment Mission. The assessment focused on determining the adequacy of basic health and nutrition services provided to the refugees. This was done through visits to selected health centres and discussion with health staff. Special attention was given to HIV/AIDS activities, nutrition support and care services including supplementary and therapeutic feeding activities. Primary data was collected on malnutrition rates and records were reviewed for mortality and morbidity trends.

35. **Meheba and Mayukwayukwa Settlements:** The health and nutrition services in Meheba and Mayukwayukwa are provided by the Zambian Government through the Ministry of Health. UNHCR complements government in the provision of drugs.

36. Access to health services is adequate and within reach of every refugee. Health services are within 5-12km for refugees and serves up to 30Km radius of the host Zambian community. Both preventive and curative services are available. A free ambulance and a clear referral system to the district hospital exist. The mission however noted that both camps are still understaffed and since the last assessment in 2006, both camps have no medical doctors to attend to complicated cases. The health facilities however provide 24 hour service..

37. The common illnesses are fever (18%), diarrhoea (21.3%), Upper Respiratory Tract Infections (40%), pneumonia, worm infestation and TB. These diseases are generally more common during the rainy season. Immunization coverage is above 75% and vitamin A is routinely given. The supply of drugs at the time of the mission was erratic for 6-9 months prior to the assessment, as a result of a national shortage, especially in Mayukwayukwa. The situation had been addressed and was expected to improve within a month.

38. Both crude and under five mortality rates were acceptable according to sphere standards at <1/1000/day and <2/1000/day respectively. Malaria is still the leading cause of deaths among children below the age of five, followed by diarrhoea.

39. VCT and other basic tests for malaria, STI's and Haemoglobin are available in the settlements to both refugees and the host community. As acceptance of VCT is improving, absence of ARVs and 'food to satisfy the appetite' at the centres was indicated as reasons why voluntary testing is still low. Consistent to last year's findings, ARVs are not available at camp level yet but provided through the respective district hospitals in Solwezi (for refugees in Meheba) and Kaoma (for refugees in Mayukwayukwa). The mission however acknowledges the full requirements of the Ministry of Health before ARVs can be administered at a tertiary institution.

40. There are PMTCT, TB and Home Based Care programme in the camps. There was no clear food supplementation program in place to meet the increased nutrition needs of people living with HIV and AIDS (PLWHA). A discussion with PLWHA revealed that most of them had increased appetite during the first two months of starting ARVs and experience terrible side effects to medication if they do not eat frequently and adequately. One single member household client expressed how the ration lasts up to 10 days only as a result of having to eat more frequently.

41. Among Angolan refugees wishing to repatriate, the continued source and supply of ARVs in their rural places of origin was a real concern. Others opted either not to return or not to start ARVs for fear of discontinuation and the perceived consequences once one interrupts the medication schedule.

42. Generally, the HIV infection was perceived higher among the host community than in the refugee settlements. Data on prevalence among refugees was difficult to obtain. The DHMT estimated the prevalence at 16% and rising for Solwezi District.

43. HEPS from WFP is the main commodity distributed to all vulnerable refugees under the supplementary feeding programme. However, it was noted that in Meheba, no HEPS were available at the government clinic. There was no appropriate response to therapeutic feeding. No F75 or F100 was available to treat severe cases. Inappropriate management of severe cases of malnutrition can potentially lead to increased deaths among malnourished children.

44. **Mwange and Kala camps:** The Zambia Red Cross Society (ZRCS) and Africa Aktion Hilfe (AAH) are responsible for health services in Mwange and Kala camps respectively. Unlike the refugee settlements in Western and North Western provinces, the two refugee camps meet the staffing standards, each with a medical doctor (Camp Profile reports). A referral system exists in both camps to district hospitals and two ambulances are available for this purpose.

45. A full range of services for in and outpatients, maternal and child health immunization, PMTCT (in Mwange), HBC and psycho-social counseling services are provided. Facilities for tests and investigations such as malaria parasites, hemoglobin, T.B., RPR especially for antenatal, STIs including VCT are also present in the camps at no cost to the refugees. Male and female condoms are also readily available. About 25% of the patients in the camp clinics are Zambians. Refugee health services are perceived to be better by the local population.

46. ARVs for refugees who are HIV⁺ are provided by the Government through the district hospitals. Currently, like the refugee settlements, health centres in camps only provide VCT and no ARVs. The health centres are yet to be designated as ART centres due to requirements by the Ministry of Health for trained health personnel to administer ARVs. Clients on ARVs are transported to district hospitals to obtain ARVs. Both camps have active PMTCT, sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) programs as well as HIV and AIDS task forces (Camp profile reports, April 2007).

47. The most commonly reported illnesses are Malaria (35%), Pneumonia (46%), TB and HIV. There is a seasonal pattern to childhood illnesses. Although malaria is the leading cause of death for children and adults, both crude and under five mortality rates stand at acceptable levels of < 1/1000 per day, an indication of adequate health services.

48. Drugs are provided by the government of Zambia. From time to time UNHCR complements government efforts and buys the essential drugs if there is a shortage. AAH pays for any other hospital fees charged to refugees on ARVs by Kawambwa hospital.

49. Since September 2005, Kala and Mwange refugee camps were pilot areas for the integration of HIV/AIDS with food and nutrition support systems adapted from strategy based-recommendations of a UNHCR/UNICEF/WFP Joint Assessment in 2003.

Nutrition Status

50. This result compares nutrition status across all camps and settlements.

CAMP	Wasting (%)		Underweight (%)		Stunting (%)	
	Moderate	Severe	Moderate	Severe	Moderate	Severe
Mayukwayukwa	7.1 (5.0-9.1)	1.3 (0.4-2.2)	22.4 (19.1-25.8)	5.1 (3.4-6.9)	31.4 (27.7-35.1)	7.1 (5.0-9.1)
Meheba	3.3 (1.0-5.6)	0.0 (0.0-0.0)	13.1 (8.8-17.5)	1.6 (0.0-3.3)	21.3 (16.0-26.6)	6.6 (3.4-9.8)
Kala	3.6 (2.4-4.8)	0.0 (0.0-0.0)	19.3 (16.7-21.8)	3.2 (2.1-4.3)	42.2 (39.0-45.3)	14.5 (12.2-16.7)
Mwange	2.1 (1.0-3.1)	0.5 (0.0-1.0)	16.7 (14.0-19.4)	1.6 (0.7-2.5)	38.0 (34.5-41.5)	10.9 (8.7-13.2)
Average – All camps	4.0 (3.2-4.7)	0.5 (0.2-0.7)	18.7 (17.2-20.2)	3.0 (2.4-3.7)	36.5(34.4-38.4)	10.9 (9.7-12.2)

Fig.4: Prevalence of Malnutrition by Camp May 2007

52. Malnutrition rates appear slightly better in camps and settlements if compared to national averages for Zambians. Wasting is particularly low and may indicate an adequate control of illnesses, sufficient diet and access to quality water and sanitation.

53. Less than 15% of mothers were either malnourished or obese. Most mothers were in the normal category, similar to national trends. Data on consumption patterns show that, regardless of nationality, 80% of all refugees have adequate consumption, 18% borderline and less than 2% poor consumption. Such patterns attest to both adequacy and variety in diet, thereby contributing to good nutrition status. Micronutrients are met through fresh vegetables grown, and distribution of WFP fortified foods.

5.5 Water and Sanitation

54. This sector falls under the responsibility of UNHCR with support from the Department of Water Affairs. Water distribution (including treatment), waste management, vector control, rodent control and hygiene promotion is managed by different IPs. The JAM 2006 report provides a detailed account of the water and sanitation facilities. This section is a brief update and overview of the current situation based on household data.

55. Refugees have access to various water sources: bore holes, taps, protected and unprotected dug wells, rain water, rivers and ponds. In the settlements, bore holes are commonly used with Mayukwayukwa and Meheba recording levels of utilization of 83% and 42% respectively. In the northern camps, refugees in

Mwange and Kala (84% and 92% respectively) use public tap water. Refugees in settlements were more likely to use dug out wells (26%), unprotected wells (17%) and streams (15%), mirroring a typical Zambian village as these refugees have been in camps for over 40 years.

56. Despite inherent repair and fuel requirements for the efficient running of water systems, sufficient safe water is available to refugees in all the settlements and camps. Currently the minimum standard of 20 liters per person per day is met. Refugee disposal was generally good everywhere.

57. Access to pit latrine is above 97% for Kala and Mwange, Meheba (92%) and Mayukwayukwa (59%). Except for Mayukwayukwa, all other camps meet the UNHCR standard of 6 persons per pit latrine and the Sphere Project standard of a maximum of 20 people per each toilet.

Recommendations on Health and Nutrition

- Following recommendation to phase out food aid support to most refugees in Meheba and Mayukwayukwa, it is recommended that a nutrition survey be conducted annually to monitor changes in nutritional status for all refugees with health records routinely analyzed to provide early warning information should there be a change in the overall nutritional status.
- PLWHA should be considered as social referrals and should benefit from different types of support including food supplements, in line with UNHCR support of such cases. Provision of F75 and F100 should be prioritized to avert deaths among severely malnourished cases.
- It is recommended that the Ministry of Health maintains supplementary feeding programs in refugee health facilities for undernourished children and needy adults similar to host community health facilities.
- Availability of ARVs in areas of return is a major concern. It is recommended that refugees wishing to return be considered for adequate supplies of drugs.

5.6 **Education**

58. Education was one of the sectors under deep observation during the Joint Assessment. In particular, the mission members looked at the demographic of the school population, at the availability, accessibility and utilization of education services, at the enrolment and attendance rates and at the quality of education (i.e. teacher-pupil ration, pass rate).

59. **Mayukwayukwa and Meheba:** In the settlements, the GRZ through the Ministry of Education is the main provider of schooling services. The education curriculum and calendar are based on the Zambian system.

60. In Mayukwayukwa there is only one government basic school, covering from grade 1 to grade 9. This caters for both the refugees and Zambian pupils. There are also six community schools (one managed by LWF and five sponsored by UNHCR)

but they constantly face erratic support in terms of books, chalk, pencils and salaries to the teachers.

The Basic school, established in 1968, caters mostly for the old Mayukwayukwa settlers and it has a school population of 1130 students (552 males and 578 females) of which 391 are Zambians and 739 are refugees. It is also the only sitting centre for Grade 7 exams in the settlement. Grade 8 and 9 students are requested to pay a school fee of 30,000 kwacha per term used to cover school running costs and to pay the salaries of refugee teachers.

The school is currently experiencing over enrollment especially as it is hosting an additional number of pupils relocated from Nangweshi camp. Currently the teacher/pupils ration stands at 1:59, far away from the optimum standard of 1:40.

61. The attendance level is rather encouraging (over 87%) even though boys tend to be less consistent in attending school as they are often requested as labor force in the fields.

62. Refugee pupils relocated from Nangweshi are experiencing the problem of language used in school because whilst they followed the Angolan curriculum by using Portuguese in Nangweshi, in Mayukwayukwa they are subjected to the Zambian curriculum which uses English.

63. In the settlement, there are also six community schools, which were established by Angolan refugees living in the settlement but are lacking any link with the Zambian Open Community Schools (ZOCS) organization. These schools are generally face a lack of funding, teaching materials, and community support.

64. In Meheba, there are 5 basic schools and one Secondary High school. The schools are run by the Ministry of Education. In addition there are 9 community schools in different zones of the settlement. In general, the availability of school facilities at Basic school level is very adequate, and pupils are not expected to cover long distances to reach their school.

65. The Secondary School was donated to the Zambian Government by the Government of Japan in 1987 and it hosts 404 pupils, both Zambians (308) and refugees (96). However, the enrollment levels have been affected negatively by the Angolan voluntarily repatriation exercise and positively by the recent opening of the Lumwana mine. It is mainly a boarding school, and this constitutes a major challenge for the refugee students as they are requested to stay in school and to pay higher school fees. The mission observed that a consistent number of secondary school refugee students are migrating to daily schools outside the settlement where the fees are lower.

66. The quality of teaching is rather high as shown by the teacher/pupils ratio, which stands at 1:18 and by the pass rate, which was 69.5% at Grade 6 in the past school year.

67. The five Basic schools host a total of 3,150 pupils (1,678 boys and 1,472 girls). The average attendance rate of 85% but this varies according to the seasonality. The drop out rate tends to become more relevant in the higher grades, mainly caused by early marriages and pregnancies, and by the need to work in order

to support the household. The pass rates are very good with an average 89% at Grade 7 level and 73.5% at the Grade 9 level.

68. The main decline in enrolment is registered during the passage between primary and secondary education, as the latter requires the payment of a school fee.

69. **Kala and Mwange:** In these camps, education is managed by UNHCR cooperating partners, namely HODI and World Vision Zambia. In Kala, World Vision Zambia is responsible for formal education (primary and secondary education), while HODI is in charge of non-formal education, which includes pre-school, adult literacy, vocational training and English as a foreign language. In Mwange, HODI is in charge for both formal and non-formal education.

In both camps, the education curriculum and calendar are based on the Congolese system and the DRC Ministry of Education supervises curriculum and examinations with a view that the students should be easily integrated into Congolese schools when they decide to repatriate. Therefore, primary education ranges from grade 1 to grade 6, while secondary education runs from grade 7 to grade 12.

70. In Kala, there are six primary schools, funded by UNHCR, and one secondary school: secondary education has historically been a community initiative, and it still receives shared support from the refugee community and UNHCR. In general, the mission noted that there is no problem of availability of school facilities in the camp.

Very positive results have been achieved with regard to the pass rate at grade 6 and at grade 12 exams, which has reached 100% in the last few years.

a

71. In Mwange, there are five primary schools and one secondary school, plus classes for special education, hosting 38 pupils. The pass rate is rather high, as 98.6% of the grade 6 students and 100% of the grade 12 students in 2005/06 completed their exams successfully.

72. The enrolment levels are generally quite high in both Mwange and Kala. In Mwange, the attendance is 4,860 or 65% attending school as of May 2007. In terms of secondary education, school age pupils registered stands at 1,222 representing 80% of the total.

In Kala, 5,614 children were attending school, representing the 77.5% of the total school age children.

73. The school dropout rate is fairly low in both camps. For instance, since the beginning of the academic year in September 2006, 163 boys and 142 girls abandoned school in Kala, the main reasons being repatriation, voluntary decision (i.e. to look for employment to help supporting the HH) and marriage. In Mwange, 307 boys and 256 girls dropped out school in the current school year.

74. On teacher/pupil ratio, Mwange stands at 1:44 and Kala at 1:56, both under the optimum standard of 1:40. This situation, which worsened since the beginning of 2007, is partly due to a reduced number of teachers as a result of spontaneous repatriation as well as budget cuts in the education sector.

75. In both camps, students returning to DRC are provided with a certificate (*Bulletin de l'Eleve*) which shows the performance of the student in every subject in

the current school year and with a *School Transfer Certificate* (made available by UNHCR) which will allow the pupils to be admitted to school in DRC. Moreover, pupils who have completed Grade 6 or Grade 12 while in the camps are provided of a certificate to testify their successful completion of these exams. This documentation is widely accepted in DRC as the issue was discussed and agreed upon during the Tripartite meeting.

76. In all the refugee sites visited, the mission noted a decrease in the school attendance during the days of food distribution, as the pupils were to collect the food rations either on behalf of their household or, as orphans, they are the sole holders of the food cards.

Recommendations on Education

- In Mayukwayukwa, two community schools should be upgraded to basic school level (becoming examination sitting place) to smooth the enrollment pressure on Mayukwayukwa Basic School.
- UNHCR and GRZ should fully cooperate to speed up the process of opening the high school currently being built in Mayukwayukwa. The opening of this school would prevent migration.
- In Mayukwayukwa, the establishment of a link between the Community Schools in the Settlement and ZOCS should be strongly encouraged.
- In Meheba Secondary school, a higher number of seats should be reserved to non-boarding students at a lower fee-level, so to encourage the enrollment of refugee students living in the settlement.
- In Kala and Mwange, sensitization should continue about the importance of education and discouraging parents to take pupils away from school in advance in view of repatriation.

5.7 Non-food Items

77. UNHCR provides its implementing partners non-food items for distributions to new arrivals to enable them effectively relocate to new homesteads. This includes one blanket per person and 1 kitchen set, 1 jerry can and 1 plastic sheet per family of seven persons. In addition, extremely vulnerable persons/refugees, who are leaving on assisted voluntary repatriation, are assisted with clothes and blankets while each female receives an additional two meters of chitenge/sanitary material. Women in the camp receive this sanitary assistance bi-annually.

78. Each month, 250g of soap per person are distributed when available to the general population during the monthly food distribution. UNHCR and partners sometimes receive donation of used clothes and other items from private donors. These items are distributed to the needy groups in the population.

79. However, the mission noted that distribution of NFIs has not been regular in all the sites. In Mwange, for example, soap was not provided to the general

population from March to May 2007. The supply of NFIs is more regular in Kala, when the population experienced a reduction in the provision of soap only in March 2007.

Recommendation on Non-Food Supplies

- Non-food items (NFIs) should be distributed regularly to refugees in all camps to reduce trading of food basket commodities in an attempt to meet these needs.

5.8 The Environment In and Around the Camps

80. There have been concerns of progressive environmental degradation in the four refugee sites mainly due to poor farming practices, causing soil erosion, and activities such as uncontrolled cutting of trees for farming and firewood. The depletion of wildlife as a result of uncontrolled hunting is another matter of concern. However, NGO partners responsible for agriculture and natural resources management have been working with refugees to mitigate the negative impact on the environment.

81. In general, environmental activities in the camps and surrounding villages are funded by UNHCR and its cooperating partners. The emphasis is on the promotion of sustainable environmental management, especially with regard to managing sound natural resources (forestry, land and water).

82. In Kala and Mwange, the environment is fairly well managed. The main activities concentrate on the establishment of tree nurseries and the protection of established trees, the reforestation and the rehabilitation of the degraded areas through, for example, the distribution of fruit trees to the households and the burying of ditches and pits, and the campaign for the control of soil erosion through the promotion of vetivar grass planting.

83. Moreover, the use of mud stoves (energy saving) has been constantly promoted, and at the moment 2,477 households in Kala (50.8% of the total) and 2,829 in Mwange (55.67%) are regularly using fuel efficient mud stoves.

84. Environmental education and sensitization takes place in schools as extracurricular activity through Environmental Conservation Clubs and with campaigns and meetings within the refugee community, as well as through the dissemination of information on billboards.

85. In Mayukwayukwa, with the major population increase due to the relocation of refugees from Nangweshi, a big danger lies at the rate natural resources are being depleted. This is most evident in the amount of building poles and fuel wood utilized by the refugee community. To reduce on the rate of deforestation, CORD introduced the 'energy saving stoves' (mud stoves) in the settlement. This however lacked the needed sensitization due to some financial constraints.

5.9 Protection and Security

86. In line with its mandate, UNHCR is responsible for protection for the refugees.

87. The government represented by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Office of the Commissioner for Refugees (MHA-COR) is responsible for provision of security and physical protection for the refugees. This is done in conjunction with other implementing partners and UNHCR.

88. In Mwange, for example, five police officers are stationed at the camp and they normally rotate after several months. In Kala, the security situation has been relatively calm and stable. The violent riot that occurred in April 2001, which resulted in a death of a refugee remains as an isolated incident. Currently the number of police officers in Kala is 6.

89. With a view to support the delivery of an effective and efficient justice system to the benefit of the refugee community, UNHCR and the Government of Zambia decided to set up Mobile Courts in the camps. For that purpose, the Magistrate Court conducts the adjudication of civil and criminal cases "on location" in the sites. The court comprises the Magistrate, a Court interpreter and Court Clerk, a Prisoner Warden, two prosecutors and a member from the Legal Resource Foundation who attend as observer. The response by the Mobile Court is very positively received by both refugees and host community.

90. Moreover, the Neighborhood Watch (NHW) has been established by UNHCR, COR and the Police to ensure peace and security in the camps and also to act as a "watch dog" within the community. Its main tasks are to report cases to the Police and advise the community on issues of law and public order.

5.10 Gender Issues and Concerns

91. Gender issues and women empowerment are dealt with in different ways and at various levels. There have been attempts to encourage female participation in leadership, and ensure 50% representation in leadership and decision making processes at refugee community level. This is done through either encouraging a high number of women candidates or through setting a principle of having a man and a woman leader for each section. Women are represented in all leadership positions in various committees. In Mwange, HODI has trained 56 women and men in achieving gender equity in leadership skills. Currently, there is 50% female representation in the management structure. The situation is similar in Kala, where there is 50% women representation among section and street leaders. In Mayukwayukwa, there is an average of 46% women presentation in established committees in the settlement.

92. Another area of interest is the one of women participation in the distribution of food and non-food items. In general, WFP mainstreams gender by ensuring that agreements with NGO partners reflect aspects of Enhanced Commitments to Women (ECW). In this regard, training opportunities are promoted in line with ECWI to sensitize and educate beneficiaries, especially women, on various topics in health and nutrition.

WFP promotes the active participation of female refugees in food management, distributions, in income-generating activities, and in capacity-building courses. Cooperating partners are also encouraged to recruit more women in their workforce especially in decision-making positions.

In Kala, a food committee exists at camp level with nearly 50% women representation. In Mwange, in line with the High Commissioner's commitments to refugee women, three quarters of the food distribution team are women and they are consulted on any changes to be made. Further, the refugee community has been sensitized to ensure that women are the ones responsible for collection of rations in order to oversee food control and management at household level.

93. Close attention is also paid to preventing and Combating Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV). This is done both through awareness raising and providing forums where disputes are solved. In general, the most common forms of violence are: domestic violence, rape, defilement, forced marriages and genital mutilation.

In Kala, since August 2002, a refugee SGBV Committee has been established. Under the guidance of the interagency SGBV Task Force and HODI Counselor as a focal point, the committee assists those who became victims of SGBV, provides counseling, and resolves conflicts where possible at the community level. HODI has trained psychosocial counselors and trained SGBV program assistants in SGBV prevention and responses. Various cases come to the attention of the SGBV committee and are referred to the interagency SGBV Task Force or the police, depending on their nature.

In Mwange, this sector has 5 programme assistants that run the programme in the camp. An office has been established in the camp where counseling and conflict resolution is conducted. On average, the number of cases reported each month ranges between five and ten with domestic violence being the most common. The SGBV task force committee meets once a month to review all cases that has been handled in the camp and those referred to the police. Moreover, a mobile court presided upon by the Justice Department sits twice a month in the camp to attend these cases.

In Mayukwayukwa, through the neighborhood watch and community leaders, SGBV cases are reported to Police, CORD, COR Refugee Officer and UNHCR. Constraints to effective SGBV interventions are due to community's traditional norms of addressing SGBV at community level without prosecution of perpetrators. However with the current SGBV task force in place and training being provided by UNHCR, this trend is changing and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for SGBV have been introduced.

In Meheba, a SGBV Concepts & Coordination Workshop was held on 7th March, 2007. It was agreed that there is a need for an INTEGRATED APPROACH towards SGBV in order to get all groups to actively engage in SGBV activities. Linkages were to be established between all sectoral activities, ie. food distribution, physical planning, sanitation and registration.

5.11 Partnerships and Coordination Mechanisms

94. UNHCR and WFP have worked together over many years to provide humanitarian assistance, including food, to refugees. The camp administrations are guided by a Tripartite Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Zambia, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the

Implementing Partners. Each camp has elected leaders to monitor overall camp administration and report on any issues to Inter-agency members.

95. The roles and responsibilities are as follows:

a) In line with its mandate, UNHCR is responsible for protection and durable solutions, assistance in the camps and funding refugee assistance activities implemented by UNHCR partners and government counterparts in the sites.

b) The Government of Zambia, through the Ministry of Home Affairs, Office of the Commissioner for Refugees, is responsible for Security and Administration. It provides legal protection, facilitates physical protection by the Zambian police and handles data management.

c) The UN World Food Programme, on a pilot bases with effect from January 2004, provides food rations to refugees through its Cooperating Partners. As a policy, under normal circumstances, food is only distributed to vulnerable persons and new arrivals that have not completed two harvest seasons.

d) The Cooperating Partners, in general provide Community services. Additional responsibilities for them include camp management, food distribution and distribution of NFIs. In some sites, the Cooperating Partners are also in charge of the health and the education sectors.

e) In Mayukwayukwa and Meheba settlements, the Government of Zambia, through the Ministry of Education provides educational services to both refugee and non refugee children in the settlements and through the Ministry of Health provides for the management of health services.

96. Generally, there are good coordination mechanisms in place at field level mainly through regular meetings. These include pre and post food distribution meetings between UNHCR, WFP, MHA-COR, NGO partners, refugee leaders and representatives of food committees. Additionally, inter-agency meetings are held monthly for planning and information sharing. UN agencies and NGO partners working in the camps/settlements also attend development coordination meetings with all Government agencies in each respective district.

97. Agencies working in the Northern Camps also attend bi annual, inter - provincial coordination meetings. This forum brings all the agencies and GRZ provincial administration for both Luapula and Northern together to discuss issues of common interest and refugee programme such as security, long term plans, sustainable livelihoods etc. It is also a forum for updating the two provincial administrations on what each agency is doing or what they plan to do. This forum is working well and chairmanship of these meetings rotates among the two permanent secretaries of Luapula and Northern.

98. All these initiatives have led to effective coordination and improved working relationship between agencies/NGOs, the Government and the refugee community.

5.12 Livelihood and Food Security

5.12.1 Food Assistance

99. Food aid requirements are different among the different refugees' sites, Mayukwayukwa, Meheba, Kala and Mwange. This is due to the availability of means to access food, through either agriculture or trading. In the latter two camps, food aid is the most important source of food for most of the refugees (all currently under food assistance), but it has to be borne in mind that it is not the only one. From the focus group discussion and interviews with key informant, it was noted that in Mayukwayukwa and Meheba, more than 50% of the population currently under food aid may not require food aid. This is based on the findings that most of the refugees that are still under food aid are in many ways involved in more than one self-reliant activity, the activities range from small scale businesses to commercial farming.

100. Findings from focus group discussions in Mayukwayukwa and Meheba revealed that of the total food consumed, 40% came from food aid, 40% from agriculture and 20% from purchase. This shows that some of the refugees are in a position to sustain themselves without food aid given that food aid is not the only source of food for the refugees. Therefore, the mission is recommending that the caseload relocated from Nangweshi to Mayukwayukwa be assessed on a case by case basis, so that those who achieved self-reliance are weaned off the food assistance. Only extremely vulnerable cases will continue receive food assistance.

Current numbers by camp and nationality

101. The breakdown of beneficiaries per camp is outlined in the table below:

Fig. 7: Food Assistance Beneficiaries per Camp/Settlement

Camps/Settlement	Total Population	Food Assistance Beneficiaries
Kala	19,058	19,058
Mwange	21,319	21,319
Meheba	13,715	6,305
Mayukwayukwa	10,408	10,408
Total	64,500	57,090

Pipeline regularity

102. In all the refugee camps, there has been no major food pipeline break in the past 12 months. Refugees have been receiving food on a monthly basis with slight changes in commodities at certain points. For example, in Mwange, beans were distributed in replacement of peas starting from April 2007, while maize meal was distributed instead of Sorghum in May 2007. To some extent, this change in commodities has provided a chance to break the food basket monotony.

Food storage and distribution management

103. Food commodities delivered by WFP are received, handled and distributed by cooperating partners in the respective camps. In Mayukwayukwa and Meheba it has been Christian Outreach for Refugee Development (CORD), who are phasing out of the two camps by end June 2007. In Kala and Mwange food receipt, handling and distribution is done by World Vision Zambia (WVZ). At the Extended Delivery Point (EDP) in the food is stored up to the distribution days when food is sent to Final Distribution Points (FDP) within the camp. Food commodities are transported to the FDP using commercial transporters hired by WFP.

104. It was noted during key informant interviews that the system in the camps varies, for instance in Mayukwayukwa, Kala and Mwange, commodities are sent to the FDP without refugees escort and there is strict control by the partners. While in Meheba, refugee food committee members are in the forefront from the EDP up to FDP and this has led to abuse of food. The focus group discussions revealed that there were isolated reports of corruption among camp leadership. This was revealed to be more pronounced in Meheba where there were concerns that the food balances from FDPs do not get back to the EDP after distributions. It was also noted that the food distribution mechanism is dominated by the refugee leaders who even sometimes do the distribution themselves and can siphon additional left over food. Key informant interviews and focus group discussions in all the camps, revealed that the food committees are not selected by the community as required but rather through appointment by the refugee community leaders. This gives room for the leaders to manipulate the conduct of the food committee in cases where the IP is weak.

Food basket monitoring

105. During the 12 months of the project, WFP has provided a monthly full food ration to an average of 65,000 refugees. The ration is comprised of 13.5 kg cereals, 1.8kg pulses, 0.75 vegetable oil, 0.15kg salt and 1.5 kg HEPS, except for Kala and Mwange refugee camps where refugees receive 3.6 kg of pulses but no HEPS. This ration meets the standard minimum daily requirement of 2100 Kcals and the total ration per person per month is 18 Kilograms (see table below).

Fig.8: Food Basket and Daily Food ration (in grams) by camp/settlement

GFD:	Mayukwayukwa	Meheba	Kala	Mwange
Cereals	450	450	450	450
Pulses	60	60	120	120
Fortified Vegetable Oil	20	20	25	25
Iodated salt	10	10	10	10
HEPS	50	50	0	0
Total	590	590	605	605

Fig. 9: Daily Food ration in Mayukwayukwa and Meheba

Commodity	Ration Per Person Per Day (grams)	Kilocalories	Protein	Fat
Maize	450	1620	40.5	15.8
Pulses	60	201	12	0.7
Vegetable oil	20	177	0	20.0
HEPS	50	190	9	3.0
Salt	5	0	0	0
<i>Total</i>		<i>2188</i>	<i>61.5</i>	<i>39.5</i>
			11.2%	16.2%

Fig. 10: Daily Food ration in Kala and Mwanze

Commodity	Ration Per Person Per Day (grams)	Kilocalories	Protein	Fat
Maize	450	1620	40.5	15.8
Pulses	120	402	24.0	1.4
Vegetable oil	25	221	0	25.0
Salt	5	0	0	0
<i>Total</i>		<i>2243</i>	<i>64.5</i>	<i>42.2</i>
			11.5%	16.9%

Commodity Preference and Acceptability

106. The focus group discussions conducted among the refugees expressed dissatisfaction with the type of food items provided, especially sorghum and pigeon peas. The type of sorghum they know is white in colour and not the red type currently being provided. Beneficiaries reported that the quality of peas or beans is often poor.

107. During focus group discussions, by use of proportional piling, the beneficiaries indicated that 60% sell at least part of their food rations to substitute with preferred food items or to obtain cash for non food items, while the data collected in the HH survey show that only up to 30% do so for preferred commodities. In general, the lack of assistance for non-food items has put enormous pressure on food rations provided by WFP. Selling or bartering part of the rations with non food items is an extremely common coping strategy among the refugees. Through the focus group discussions, it was revealed that in Kala and Mwanze refugee camps, cooking oil is being used as a contribution to the Chalimba scheme; this is a group of women who form a cooperative, they all contribute their family oil to one individual in one month. This individual then has enough oil to sell and make money to engage in business for her household.

108. Some of the food rations, are sold/bartered in order to access other food items like cassava. More than half of the refugee household in all camps reported

bartering sorghum for Cassava, which is their main staple. Focus group discussions revealed that almost 60% of the money realised from selling food items is used to purchase non food items, like cosmetics mostly among the Congolese refugees.

109. Overall, through focus group discussions and analysis of the food consumption patterns, refugees have a reasonably mixed diet although differences can be expected between households.

Duration of ration

110. In the focus group discussions it was mentioned however that food rations rarely covered the entire month, lasting only 21 days if three meals a day are consumed. On average, families eat two or three meals per day. The number of meals per household tends to be higher in the weeks following the food distribution. After which they resort to casual labour in the neighbouring Zambian community mostly for cassava as means of payment.

Food Storage and Distribution Management

111. On 1 January 2004, WFP Zambia took over food distribution responsibilities from UNHCR as part of a 5-country pilot global initiative in line with the July 2002 MOU between the two agencies. Since then, WFP has been responsible for the resourcing and delivery of food from the port of entry into the country to the extended delivery point (EDP) to the final delivery point (FDP) where it is distributed to the refugees.

112. The actual management of the EDPs and the implementation of food distribution in all the camps/settlements is done by WFP's partners. Currently World Vision Zambia is responsible for EDP management and food distribution in Kala camp while IFRC/ZRCS is in charge of Mwange. CORD is responsible for Meheba and Mayukwayukwa, until 30th June 2007.

113. In Kala and Mwange the food distribution is done fortnightly at more or less fixed calendar days, while in the settlements it takes place once a month as the number of food beneficiaries and the corresponding tonnage distributed is rather small. On average, food distribution takes about two days.

114. During the time of the mission, it was noted that most of the packaging on the commodities did not display the shelf life of the food items. This was most evident on the Humanitarian Daily Ration (HDR) packages.

Logistical Issues

115. WFP is responsible both for primary transportation (from central warehouses in Lusaka to the EDP in the camp) and secondary transportation of food commodities (from EDP to FDP) and has contracts with private/commercial haulers (transporters) to move the food commodities. The road conditions vary greatly, from fairly good roads to those in very bad state especially in the rainy season.

Food storage facilities at the EDPs in all the camps are of adequate capacity. These are all in form of Rub-halls (with concrete floors), erected by WFP.

Recommendations on Food Aid

- The criteria for getting food aid should not be entirely linked to agricultural production; other means of self reliance should also be considered at length as part of the approach to phase out food beneficiaries.
- Ration cards should carry personal identification features (i.e. picture) to prevent abuses and duplications.
- WFP should strengthen its monitoring system in the sites during food distribution and the beneficiary lists should be continuously updated after each food distribution.
- In Mayukwayukwa, the old refugee case load that is under food aid and have managed a successful 2006/07 agricultural season as well as stable incomes generated from IGAs to be weaned off food aid.
- The refugees that were relocated from Nangweshi with a successful 2006/07 agricultural season should be re-verified on a continuous basis so that those who achieved self-reliance are weaned off.
- In Mayukwayukwa, food committee selection should involve the community members and not only refugee leaders.
- In Meheba, refugee leaders should not be involved in distribution. New elections of the food committees by the community members should be held. Once elected, the roles of the refugees in the food distribution should be reconsidered.
- In Kala and Mwange, to encourage better consumption of food aid, preferred commodities such as cassava should be provided, resources permitting.

5.12.2 Agricultural Production

Mayukwayukwa refugee settlement

116. The mission observed that refugees in the settlements have good access to land, as they have all been allocated 2.5 hectares for farming purposes. In addition, more land is available upon request from the refugee authorities. However, although land access is not constrained, not all refugees engage in agricultural activities: the quantitative data analysis shows that about 70% of the Angolans are involved in agricultural production, while the corresponding figure for households of other origin is about 20%.

117. The main crops grown in the settlement are maize, cassava, sweet potatoes, pearl millet, ground nuts and sorghum. Overall, there has been a considerable amount of production during the 2006/07 agricultural season, as was clearly observed by the level food availability at the main markets. The rainfall performance

for this season has been normal to above normal in most of the settlement and district as a whole. The mission did not observe particular damage to agricultural production as a result of excessive rainfalls, although some localised flooding and water logging did leach the soils.

118. The host community also had a considerable harvest during the 2006/07 season; hence it is probable that surplus food will supply both the formal markets and informal markets within the peripherals of the settlement. Table X illustrates the level of agricultural production for the host community and the refugee settlement; two communities that are comparable in size. One can see that the refugees produce slightly less than the host community, but the mission could not observe any difference between these two groups in terms of the potential for agricultural production.

Fig.11: Total production (in MT) for host community compared to refugee population

	Maize	Cassava	Sorghum	Pearl Millet	Sweet Potatoes	Ground Nuts
Host community	353	1250	18	13	25	9
Refugees	193	1063	15	9	13	8

119. Despite a fairly good harvest for most crops, maize yield in particular has been negatively affected by the widespread use of recycled seeds as well as inadequate inputs such as fertiliser and hybrid maize seed. Agricultural farming implements were provided by implementing partners working in the settlement in collaboration with UNHCR. There has been support in terms of input provision to the refugees through the Government Fertiliser Support Programme which supplied maize seed and fertiliser to co-operatives in the settlement. The Government also handles extension services for most of the camp through their block extension officer. Furthermore, CORD also distributed inputs and agricultural extension services to the new arrivals from Nangweshi refugee camp. The inputs distributed included maize seeds, groundnuts and fertiliser. There is a further 3000 refugees who are being supported by OXAM GB under a project that involves capacity building for farmers and the promotion of good processing and utilisation of food. Furthermore, a good number of refugees did access various inputs (maize seed and fertiliser) from main markets in the central district of Kaoma. Nevertheless, more input support is needed to increase the level of agricultural production in the settlement.

120. Markets are very much functional in the refugee settlement as was observed in the level of commodity flows. About 60% of the households involved in agriculture sold their produce within and outside the refugee settlement. There were several forms of market exchange in the settlement, ranging from cash purchase, labour exchange and barter. It was also evident that physical markets outside the settlements were accessed easily due to good road infrastructure as well as transportation means (i.e. trucks) some of which was being provided by the refugees themselves.

Meheba Refugee Settlement

121. Access to land for agricultural activities is fairly good in the settlement. A total of 1.5 hectares of land per household is accessed for agricultural activities. Out of 13,300 refugees' resident in the settlement, about 80% are engaged in agricultural production. The main crops grown are maize, rice, sweet potatoes, pop corn, sugar beans and ground nuts. Furthermore, it was also evident that a number of refugees within some zones in the settlement (Zone C) are involved in large scale vegetable gardening (cabbages, tomatoes, rape). The 2006/07 production for most major crops is above average. Furthermore, the settlement is endowed with wetland areas (dambos) which are normally used for off season crops (winter) as well as gardening which is done all year round. In view of the above, this year's harvest will result in a high level of food availability in the formal and informal markets within the settlement. It is evident that refugees whose livelihoods are not hinged on agricultural production may access food through other means such as barter and purchases.

122. Input support programme for the refugees during the 2006/07 agricultural season has not been adequate. However, there was support which was offered by the Ministry of Agricultural and Co-operatives (MACO) through the Fertiliser Support Programme (FSP) which targeted two (2) co-operatives out of eight (8) in the settlement.

123. Despite a reduced level of extension services offered to farmers, during the 2006/07 agricultural season, MACO in collaboration with CORD offered diverse extension services by means of skill transfer in appropriate farming technologies such as conservation farming techniques (i.e. crop rotation and diversification. Sensitisation on the sustainable use of forestry resource was given to farmers to preserve the soil fertility (e.g. discouraging shifting cultivation). There was clear evidence that refugees did access various inputs (maize seed and fertiliser) from main markets in the central district of Solwezi.

124. Markets within the settlement are very much functional. The main forms of market exchange are through cash purchases, barter and labour exchange. Furthermore, a good number of refugee farmers' accessed markets outside the camp (Solwezi and Copperbelt) and the main commodities being traded are rice, maize, popcorn, sweet potatoes and sugar beans. In order for the refugees to access competitive markets where they can get good prices, MACO has started some market sensitisation programmes where trends in commodity prices are being provided on a weekly basis at the main trading centres.

Kala Refugee Camp

125. The general access to land for most refugees is very limited. On average, only one Lima per household was allocated for agricultural activities. Nonetheless, most refugees are engaged in agriculture, although the level of production is smaller than in the settlements. The mission observed that most households use agricultural production mainly as a supplement to other sources, as the number of households that depend on trading is much higher than in the settlements. The main crops grown were cassava, beans, ground nuts, sweet potatoes, cow peas and soya

beans. There are also some refugees who are involved in vegetable gardening on a small scale. Expected production of the major staple crop (cassava) is above average while maize production is not significant. Production capacity was also exacerbated by soils that have now been degraded due to lack of good land management skills.

126. It is worth noting that some of the refugees that had access to land did not cultivate all of it. This was due to the fact that some of the refugees had started engaging into other livelihood activities such as trading and fishing. Furthermore, due to difficulties arising from lack of access to additional land for farming purposes, it will be difficult for most agricultural oriented refugee households to increase food crop (cassava) productivity in the next season 2007/08.

127. For the 2006/07 agricultural season, 194 farmers out of 4,793 received inputs (seed for ground nuts and cow peas) from World Vision International (WVI). Input support programmes from the Government through the MACO fertiliser support programme is non-existent in the camp. Low productivity for the 2006/07 agricultural season has been compounded by the lack of extension services.

128. Markets for food commodities such as cassava, sugar beans and sweet potatoes are functional in the camp as observed by the level of trading. It is worth noting that refugees do not directly access competitive cassava markets (Food Reserve Agency) outside the camp where it is sold at K12, 500 per 50kg bag of cassava chips. This is due to Food Reserve Agency (FRA) requirement of National Registration Cards. In view of this, most of the refugees are forced to sell through traders at a reduced rate of K10, 000 per 50kg bag of cassava chips. Despite all these restrictions, intra-market activities are viable within the camp with the main forms of market exchange being cash purchase, barter and labour exchange. Furthermore, there is clear evidence of cross border trade with the DRC in most agricultural commodities such as cassava, sweet potatoes, and sugar beans. The schematic diagram outlines the level of market flow within and outside the camp.

Mwange Refugee Camp

129. Over 50% of the refugee population are engaged in agricultural production, which complements trading and different forms of casual labour activities. The main crops grown in the camp are cassava, beans, ground nuts, sweet potatoes, cow peas and soya beans.

130. General access to land for most refugees is limited as each household is given one Lima for agricultural activities. The main staple crop grown by most households in the camp is cassava. Like the Kala refugee camp, there are some farmers who grow small amounts of maize to supplement the cassava. It is worth mentioning that access to additional land for agricultural activities is difficult due to traditional barriers; hence most refugees are confined to the one Lima each.

131. However, some refugees did not cultivate all their farming land during the 2006/07 season for various reasons including lack of access to land, lack of labour, illness, and lack of fertilizer.

132. In view of this, an average harvest of main food crops is expected. Overall, there was some improvement on the level of food availability in the formal and informal markets within the settlement. For those refugees whose livelihoods are not hinged on agricultural production, there was evidence that their alternative livelihood activities such as trading will allow them to access food through different forms such as barter and purchases.

133. Input support programmes during the 2006/07 agricultural season were minimal, with the exception of groundnut and cow pea seeds to some farmers through World Vision International.

134. Markets for the main food commodities are fairly active in the camp with active trade of cassava, sugar beans and sweet potatoes. Furthermore, there is clear evidence of intra market transaction as was observed by the level of market activities that refugees were involved in within and outside the camp. The main forms of market exchanges are cash purchase, barter and labour exchange.

General Challenges/Constraints

135. There were common constraints and/or challenges in the refugee settlements and camps such as:

- Late delivery of agricultural inputs such as fertiliser and maize seed (common for Mayukwayukwa and Meheba).
- Inadequate inputs to those farmers that managed to access the Government Fertiliser Support Programme.
- Continuous uncertainty for some refugees due to the impending repatriation.
- Lack of appropriate farming skills that could improve productivity of most key crops (i.e. maize, rice, maize e.t.c).
- Lack of additional farm land.
- Lack of seeds for winter crops for refugees with wetlands (dambos) access.

5.12.3 Main Livelihood Activities

136. Of the 983 interviewed households, not all of them indicated having three livelihood sources and/or activities they were engaged in. 30% of the respondents in Mayukwayukwa, Meheba and Mwange indicated having only one livelihood activity compared to 13% in Kala. Of those households that reported having one livelihood source, a total of 69% relied on food assistance. By camp/settlement, 10% of the households in Mayukwayukwa relied solely on food assistance for their livelihoods, followed by 12% in Kala, 18% in Meheba and 29% in Mwange.

137. The main livelihood activities by camp/settlements are as follows:

- **Mayukwayukwa:** Food assistance (56%), casual labour (56%), food crop production (40%), cash crop production (15%) and small business (13%)
- **Meheba:** Food assistance (94%), food crop production (44%), casual labour (19%) and small business (8%)
- **Kala:** Food assistance (88%), food crop production (58%), casual labour (23%), small business (19%)
- **Mwange:** Food assistance (92%), food crop production (42%), casual labour (20%), small business (18%)

138. The following table outlines main income activities by food consumption group:

Consumption group	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th
Poor	Food assistance = 72%	Casual labour = 50%	Food crops = 39%	Small business = 22%
Borderline	Food assistance = 80%	Food crops = 37%	Casual labour = 38%	Small business = 12%
Adequate	Food assistance = 88%	Food crops = 49%	Casual labour = 29%	Small business = 16%

Fig. 13: Main IGAs by Food Consumption Groups

139. Poor consumption households are the least likely to name food assistance as a main livelihood source and more likely to name small business than the other groups. Perhaps they are not food aid recipients or new to the camps/settlements. Those with adequate consumption are more likely to name food assistance as a main source and less likely to rely on casual labour for income.

140. The chart below shows the share of total income by source by camp/settlements. .

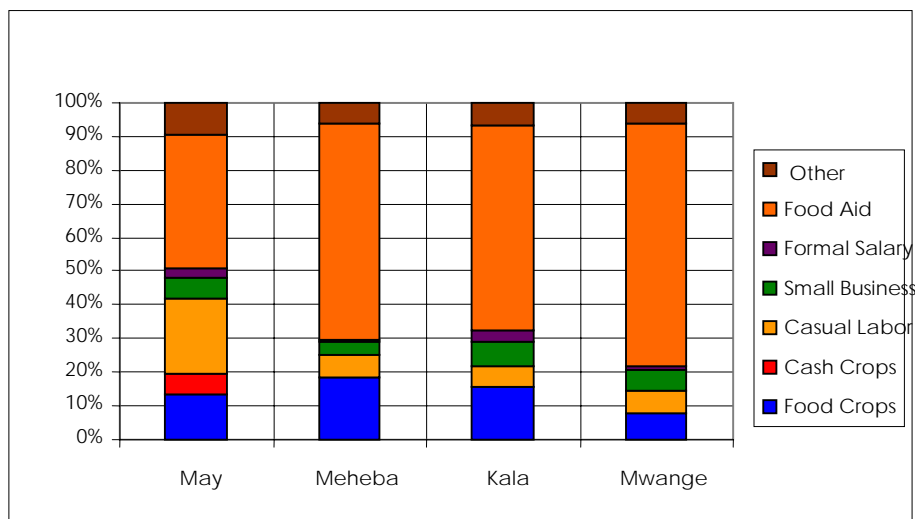


Fig. 14: Share of total income by source and setting

141. Another aspect of self-reliance is on the use of food assistance. There are two aspects to consider in the analysis of the household data: sources of the food actually consumed in the week prior to the survey and whether or not the household sold, bartered or gave away any of the main commodities.

142. The chart below shows the sources of food consumed by the households, by camp/settlement. For all the visited camps/settlements, the main source of food consumed was food assistance. However, reliance on food assistance was the least in Meheba and Kala with the greatest being in Mayukwayukwa.

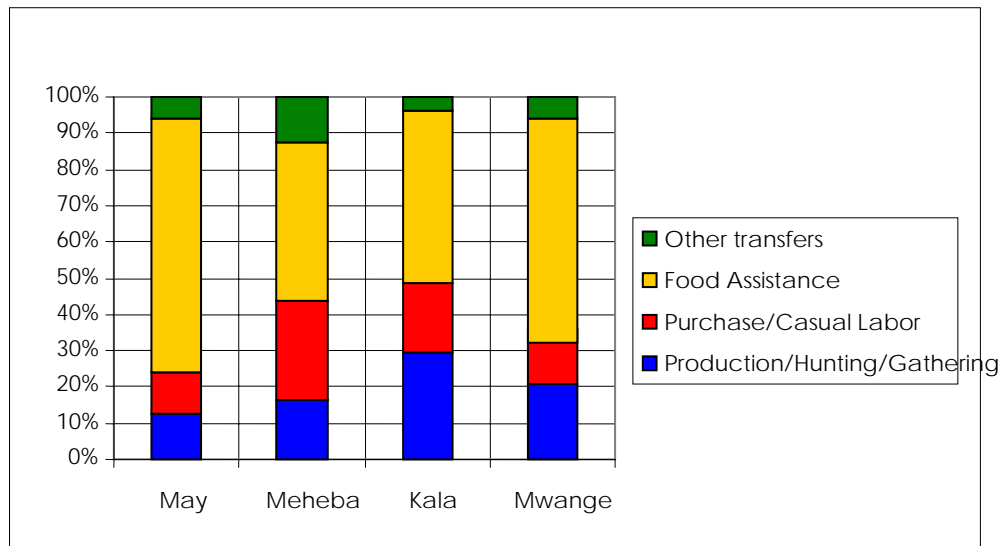


Fig. 15: Share of consumption by source and setting

143. Households were asked how much of each major commodity they consumed from their last ration. The levels varied quite a bit as this was attributed to the distributions which were done at different times. For example, in the chart below, around 70% of the households in Meheba reported that they had eaten their entire last ration of cereals, compared to only around 25% in Mayukwayukwa and over half in the other two camps/settlements. However, there were still a substantial number of households in Meheba who had not eaten any of their cereal rations.

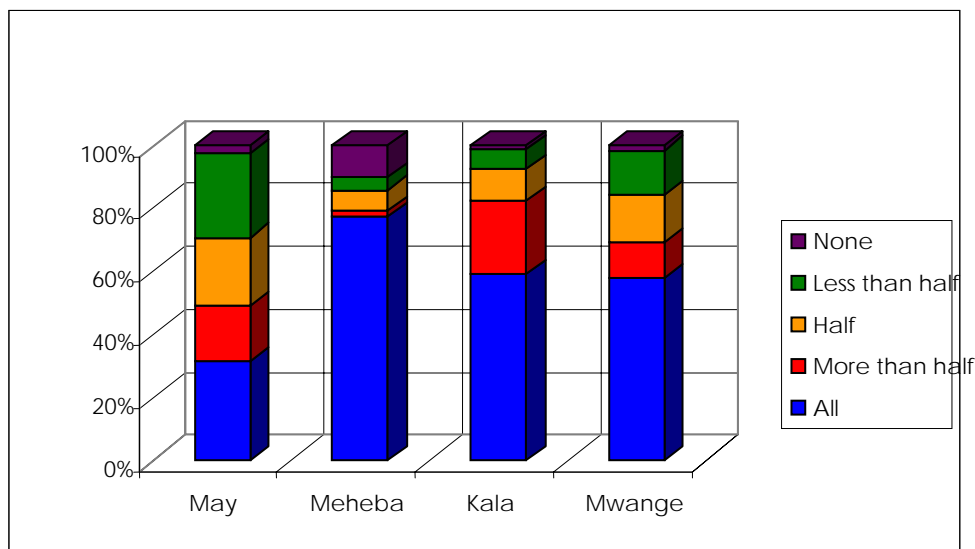


Fig. 16: Amount of cereal ration consumed

144. A similar pattern can be found for the pulse ration as illustrated in the chart below with more than 80% of the households in Meheba reporting that they had consumed their entire pulse ration. Consumption levels for the other camps/settlements were almost identical to that of cereals.

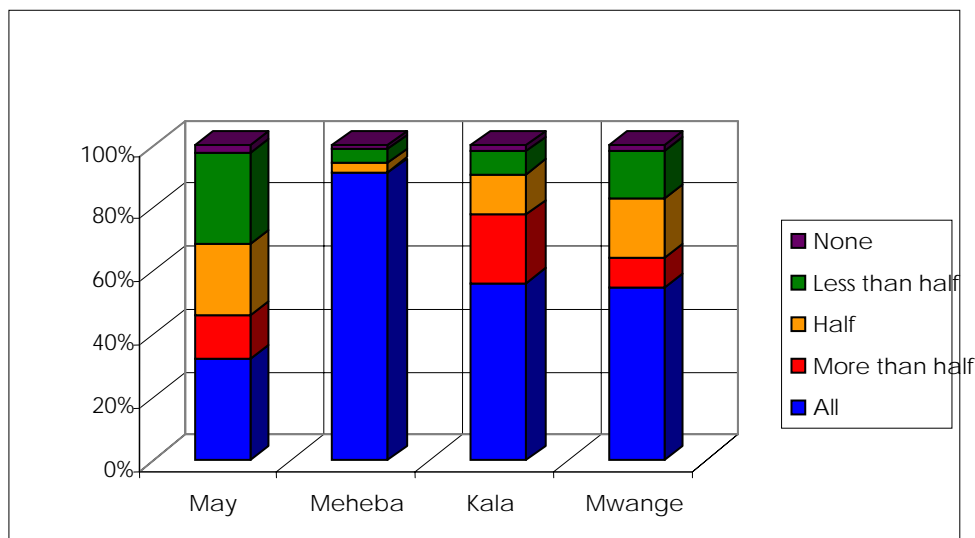


Fig. 17: Amount of pulse ration consumed

145. Oil consumption was similar to pulses for Mayukwayukwa, Meheba and, to a lesser extent for Mwange. However, more than 60% of the households in Kala had consumed all of the oil from the most recent ration.

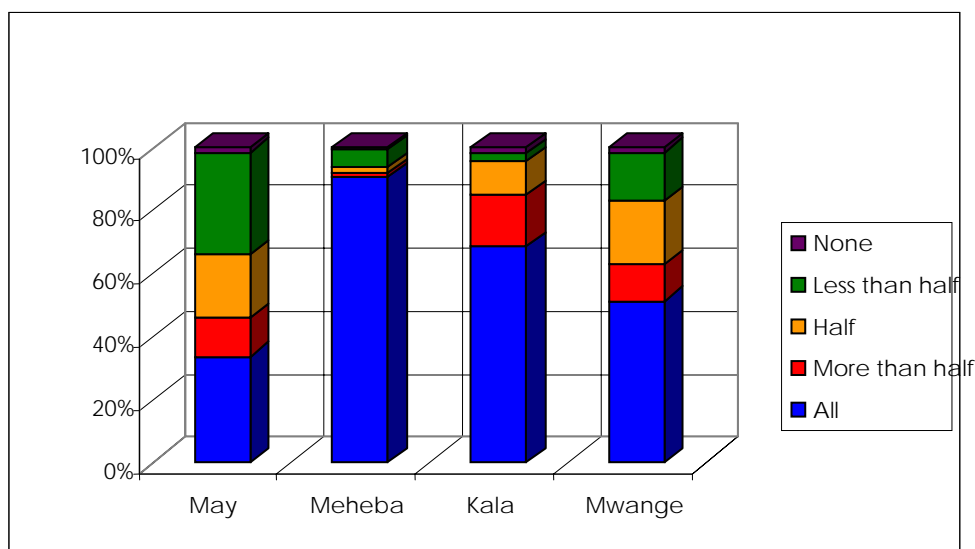


Fig. 18: Share of oil ration consumed

Recommendations on Agriculture, Food security and Self-Reliance

- Promotion and/or capacity building in establishing local seed banks for main crops varieties such as maize, cassava, beans and groundnuts.
- UNHCR should involve partners such as FAO to provide extra inputs (fertiliser and seed) and agricultural skills training in order to enhance the production of key crops.
- MACO should expand their extension services by recruiting more block extension officers within refugee settlements and camps.
- Promote the formation of co-operatives within the camps/settlements so that refugees can access inputs through the MACO Fertiliser Support Programme.
- Additional farming implements from FAO/MACO for refugees who have access to additional land for agricultural activities (Mayukwayukwa and Meheba) to improve productivity.
- GRZ should liaise, through the Office of the Commissioner for Refugees and UNHCR with traditional chiefs for the allocation of additional land for agricultural oriented refugee households to increase the yields of main crops such as cassava, maize, beans and peas (Kala and Mwange Camps).
- UNHCR to partner with the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services to supply winter seeds through the PAM Food Security Pack to refugee farmers with access to wetlands/dambos (Meheba Settlement).