



Relocation of Angolan refugees in Nangweshi camp  
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## ZAMBIA

This case study highlights the role of the CCCM Cluster in building the capacity of local authorities, Red Cross volunteers and NGOs to respond to a displacement situation and manage a camp efficiently and ensure the participation of the affected population.

### Context

The CCCM Cluster has been providing support through a three-phase CCCM and Disaster Risk Management (DRM) programme to enhance national capacity in several countries in Southern Africa to respond before, during and after natural disasters. The programme is being implemented in Angola, Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia and Zambia, and the objective is to build on the advances that many of the governments have made in DRM, and further develop technical capacities of government officials and key partners to strengthen their ability to protect and assist displaced and at-risk populations. Whilst orientated towards natural disaster risk management and response, the training proved highly relevant and essential following a land dispute matter in Kitwe that resulted in the forced displacement of a local community by a mining company.

The copper mining industry, based in the Copperbelt province in the northern part of the country, represents the backbone of the Zambian economy. The latest data indicates that in 2014, refined copper, copper alloys and copper based goods (such as cathodes, wire and sheets) represented approximately 74% of Zambia's commodity exports and approximately USD \$7.2bn in value. The Copperbelt region has developed into one of the most densely populated and urbanized parts of the country. However, urban developments centered around the mines have resulted in conflict over resources between the mining companies and the urban poor who seek affordable housing. This conflict between the needs of a rapidly increasing population on the one hand, and the needs of the mining industry on the other, has in certain cases put the mining companies, who have acquired large tracts of land from the authorities, at odds with local commu-



### Displacement Data

**Country:** Zambia

**Cause of displacement:** Land ownership

**Conflict date:** June 2015

**Number of people affected/ displaced:** 594 households

**People targeted by project:** 1,746 in the camp (291 households)

**Project Location:** Kitwe

**CCCM Cluster:** Not activated

### Keywords

- Camp consolidation
- Capacity building
- Coordination
- Improving standards
- Local capacities
- National authorities
- Community participation
- Preparedness
- Protection

nities, who often base their land rights on customary or tribal law.

Kitwe is one of the main cities in the Copperbelt and is the second largest city in terms of size and population in Zambia, comprised of townships and suburban areas. In June 2014, a community of approximately 550 households was informed that they did not have a legal right to remain on the land on which they had built their village. The land had been owned by the local city council and was sold to a mining company. As a result, people's houses were demolished, and the community was left with no shelter or land on which to build.

Following the leveling of their homes, most of the families had nowhere to go and were living out in the open near their former village. Eventually, the government, through the Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit (DMMU), stepped in to assist by identifying land for a temporary camp until the community could find an alternative site to relocate more permanently. A school sports field was selected for this purpose, tents were quickly set up and the vulnerable families were moved there. Camp residents were informed that they could live there for three months, after which it was expected that the camp would be closed.

### CCCM Activity

The DMMU, in conjunction with the Red Cross and other partners, identified a school sports field where the temporary camp was set up, and appointed the Zambia Red Cross society as the camp management agency. Whilst the Red Cross had the institutional capacity to carry out site management, the CCCM Cluster played a crucial role in developing both the Red Cross' and DMMU's

#### CCCM Framework

Red Cross volunteers act as camp managers in all disaster situations in Zambia, while the DMMU operates as camp coordinator. IOM continues to work as a capacity builder to both entities through the CCCM and DRM Capacity Building Programme as well as other specific training events.



Some of the traders in the market in Solwezi Zambia, come from the neighbouring DRC. © Mpho Seleka

knowledge on IDP rights with the aim of ensuring dignity, promoting community participation and developing a camp closure plan.

Participants in the capacity building project in Zambia, included national authorities from DMMU and other government departments, as well as Red Cross volunteers, NGO workers and members of civil society. Between December 2014 and May 2015, 13 camp management trainings sessions were held. The establishment of the camp to host the displaced community provided an opportunity to immediately observe the outcomes of the CCCM training directly in the field. The capacity building project began with a learning needs assessment, which informed the development of country specific training materials. The Cluster identified participants, conducted training of trainers, and rolled out trainings to the provinces.

One training participant observed that "The CCCM training has been useful in enabling us to recognize the gaps we have in the way we have been managing the camp. I am confident I will now deliver a better service to the beneficiaries following this training".

### Challenges and Achievements

#### Community participation

Through the learning needs assessment and observations of the camp, the CCCM Cluster identified that commu-

nity participation was one of the most significant challenges in this context. Training was therefore focused on encouraging and facilitating community participation in the governance of the camp and the camp closure process. Following the training, the Zambian Red Cross camp management team set up beneficiary committees to run the camp, including looking after camp welfare and ensuring that grievances were channeled efficiently to the camp leadership structure. The camp management team also engaged the beneficiaries on a regular basis, through their own committee on camp closure plans and durable solutions.

Illustrating the success of the training which highlighted the importance of community participation, one training participant noted "We thought if we engage the beneficiaries in the running of the camp it will create problems for us as we may not be able to address all their grievances. Now I know that I cannot treat them like dependents. They have a say in their lives".

#### Protection

Another significant challenge was ensuring the protection of rights and dignity of the displaced community. For example, it was identified that the lighting in the camp was insufficient, particularly near the amenities. The DMMU attempted to prevent the risk of fire by banning candles from the camp and relying solely on street lighting.



Vulnerable refugee women at Mayukwayukwa  
© UNHCR/Nadeera Jayasinghe

However, this left several unlit areas around the camp. Having undertaken the protection modules incorporated in the CCCM training, the camp managers were aware of the importance of lighting to reduce the risk of violence and prioritized the extension of the street lighting to ensure that there were no unlit areas. They also reorganized the positions of the dwellings so that vulnerable households, including female headed households, had tents located closer to the authorities.

Another protection challenge was managing households with adult relatives who were not part of the immediate family. In these instances, adult male relatives may have been living with the family prior to the displacement and the necessity of sharing the same

tent with the rest of the family in the camp setting was creating considerable pressure, but it placed considerable pressure on the community when these men had to share one tent with the rest of the family in camp settings. After the training, the camp management team offered a communal tent, which was used for administration during the day, and for the single men to sleep in at night. This allowed extended families to remain together in the camp, but allowed immediate families more privacy in the evenings and reduced pressure on individual households. The initiative proved highly popular within community.

### Camp closure

The third major challenge was estab-

lishing a strategy for closing the camp on the date specified by the local authorities. The local government had arranged for the community to sign a contract that they would only stay for three months before the camp would be closed. However, the community had nowhere else to go.

Having undertaken training in camp closure, the participants understood the importance of a well-developed camp closure strategy that extends beyond closing the camp to identifying and implementing durable solutions, otherwise one camp would close and another would appear. Participants noted that the authorities needed to find a long-term resettlement solution for the displaced community. As a result, the DMMU and the displaced community negotiated with local authorities to identify land available for resettlement in order to provide a durable solution. To date, the community has relocated to this area and is living in the tents provided while they build permanent housing.

## Lessons learnt

- It is important to have not only the right stakeholders at training sessions, but the correct and relevant individuals within those organisations. In doing so, the training will be directly relevant to the participants' work.
- Ensure the participation of the displaced community in camp administration and camp management processes.
- Ensure consultation among stakeholders, clear recognition of roles and responsibilities and accurate assessments of capacity on the ground.
- Identify which individuals have already received training and what participants' training needs are.
- There is a need for the CCCM Cluster to maintain ongoing engagement and support for camp managers after training finishes and throughout the life of the camp.
- It may be more sustainable to integrate CCCM training into broader capacity building in disaster risk management projects.