



Unified Plan Mid-year report 2024

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Contents

Overall progress	3
IFRC Network Action	5
Ongoing emergency response	5
Angola - Polio	5
Angola Hunger Crises	6
Sectors of intervention	8
Strategic Priorities	16
Climate and environment	16
Disasters and crises	16
Health and wellbeing	19
Migration and displacement.....	23
Values, power and inclusion	23
Enabling functions.....	24
Strategic and operational coordination	25
National Society development.....	27
Humanitarian diplomacy.....	28
Accountability and agility (cross-cutting).....	29
Operational constraints – not for public versions	30
Risk management update - not for public versions	31
Monitoring and Evaluation framework – not for public versions.....	31
Annex – Success stories.....	32

Overall progress

Context

Angola is characterized by significant inequality, ranking 148th out of 191 countries and territories on the 2021 Human Development Index. In 2018, approximately 74% of the population lived in poverty, according to the World Bank's low benchmark. This high level of poverty is closely associated with the lack of quality employment opportunities; around 80% of jobs in Angola are informal, with half of these in the primary sector, often subsistence based. Urban and youth unemployment rates remain critically high, exceeding 38% and 50%, respectively. Given the challenges of unemployment, widespread poverty, and a rapidly growing population, prioritizing investments in human capital and poverty reduction is essential. The inadequate provision of health and education services has resulted in a significant loss of potential productivity, with a child born in Angola only reaching 36% of their potential productivity. Recent efforts to address these challenges have included investments in the education and health sectors, alongside the introduction of a social registry and the Kwenda cash transfer program in 2020, which has registered nearly one million rural households.



38 MILLION
Total Population



2.8 MILLION
People in acute
food insecurity

54%

Population leaving
below the poverty
line

The first half of the year has seen Angola grappling with a series of socio-political, economic, and natural challenges that have significantly impacted the humanitarian development, particularly due to the effects of climate change and ongoing food insecurity.

Drought and Food Insecurity: The country faced severe drought conditions, particularly in the southern provinces, leading to drastically reduced agricultural productivity. Below-average harvests and limited agricultural income-earning opportunities continue to drive food insecurity in Angola as of May and have resulted in Crisis—IPC 3—or worse levels of acute food insecurity throughout the country, which are likely to persist through at least September 2024, according to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET). Below-average precipitation levels for the sixth consecutive year during the 2023/2024 rainy season resulted in crop failure, depleted agricultural labour opportunities, and reduced yields of staple crops—such as beans, cassava, maize, and sorghum—across the country's agriculture-reliant southwestern regions. Additionally, dry conditions were resulting in poor vegetation growth and inadequate grazing conditions for livestock as of May, which may increase households' reliance on negative coping mechanisms, including pre-emptively selling valuable assets such as livestock.¹

This has resulted in significant food shortages and heightened food insecurity. In response, emergency food distribution and nutritional support have become urgent priorities.

Flooding and Displacement: Heavy rainfall and subsequent flooding in the northern regions have displaced thousands of families and destroyed infrastructure, homes, and agricultural lands. The

¹ <https://reliefweb.int/report/angola/angola-assistance-overview-july-2024>

Angola Red Cross has mobilized emergency response efforts, including providing temporary shelters and sanitation facilities. However, these urgent interventions have diverted attention and resources from longer-term projects.

Health Crises: Outbreaks of cholera, malaria, and polio in various regions have posed significant public health challenges, overwhelming the healthcare system.

Malnutrition is a public health issue, with stunting (impaired growth due to malnutrition) at 44 percent, while wasting (low height for weight) is at 5 percent. The high prevalence of acute malnutrition is caused by poor-quality water, hygiene, and sanitation, inadequate infant and child feeding practices, and lack of access to essential services, underscored by poverty.²

Migration: As of June, Angola hosted at least 25,300 refugees, nearly 9,100 of whom are refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo's greater Kasai region mostly residing in Lunda Norte Province's Lóvuá refugee settlement and relying on humanitarian assistance to meet their basic food needs and for protection support, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) reports.

Economic Instability: The ongoing economic downturn has led to increased unemployment and reduced access to essential services, exacerbating the vulnerability of low-income households. To address these issues, economic support programs, including vocational training and microfinance initiatives, have been intensified. This shift has necessitated adjustments in the allocation of resources within the Unified Plan.

In the meantime, Angola's economy has undergone a modest recovery since the height of the coronavirus pandemic, and the economic outlook is positive. Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth will be anchored by still-high international oil prices in 2023-24 and subsequently by a recovery in hydrocarbons production from 2024. Real GDP growth will accelerate to 4.8% in 2027. Inflation fell sharply in 2022, on the back of currency stability and tighter monetary policy and will continue to moderate in 2023-24.

While Angola nominally has promoted women in the public sphere (and into political positions), gender inequality remains an issue, especially in the labour market, where women bear the brunt of the informal subsistence economy.

Political Developments: Angola has been ruled by the same party since independence but there is a multiparty system in place. Internationally, Angola is continuing to be assertive and demonstrating a steadfast commitment to peace and stability in Africa.

Key achievements

In the first half of 2024, CVA has strengthened its role as an auxiliary to the Government to provide life-saving humanitarian aid during emergencies. This year, CVA has responded to drought, floods, and health emergencies. An integral member of inter-agency coordination meetings and working-groups, CVA has reached thousands of families affected by food insecurity and floods with food and cash support, while health initiatives have provided critical support in the face of cholera and polio outbreaks. The dynamic and evolving context of emergencies in Angola have required innovative and coordinated response implementation plans, that leverage different modalities of response to reach those most in need.

² [Angola | World Food Programme \(wfp.org\)](https://www.wfp.org)

To promote long-term impact, CVA continues providing support to populations to improve their health and well-being and build resiliency to future impacts. To do so, CVA has focused on developing strategic plans and proposals and continues engaging with Government entities and external stakeholders to strengthen partnerships to deliver on long-term population needs. Of note, CVA continues to deliver community-based health care services, including the promotion of health and disease prevention activities, across the country.

CVA’s role in humanitarian diplomacy remains a priority. Key initiatives, such as the high-profile visit of IFRC President Kate Forbes to Angola, underscored the commitment to addressing pressing challenges like food insecurity and health crises exacerbated by climate change. This marked a pivotal moment for the Angola Red Cross, as President Forbes’ engagement with national leaders, including the President of Angola and several cabinet ministers, facilitated crucial dialogues that underscored the organization's capacity and commitment to serve vulnerable communities.

As we move forward, ARC remains committed to its core values of compassion, integrity, and excellence. We will continue to prioritize the needs of the most vulnerable and work tirelessly to ensure that our interventions not only address immediate needs but also contribute to sustainable development and community resilience. This mid-year report highlights our key achievements and the major developments that have shaped our operations, reflecting our unwavering dedication to serving the people of Angola.

Changes and amendments

IFRC Network Action

Ongoing emergency response

Angola - Polio

Appeal number	MDRAO009
Duration	5 months
Funding requirements	Total IFRC: CHF 172,536
Emergency Appeal	Appeals IFRC

Summary of the operation

On February 27, the Angolan health authorities declared a polio outbreak and classified it as a Grade 2 emergency. Following this declaration, the government of Angola confirmed the first case of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (Cvdpv2) in the country. Due to the high risk of virus spread—exacerbated by inadequate water and sanitation infrastructure, hard-to-reach populations, and the increased risk of cross-border transmission along the DRC-Angola border—the government of Angola launched an emergency response and verbally requested support from the Angola Red Cross for the vaccination campaign scheduled for May 17-19 and June 28-30.

In response, the Angola Red Cross initiated a 4-month DREF operation to support the government’s efforts to prevent the spread of the polio virus. This included assisting the Ministry of Health with the vaccination campaign and improving sanitation, hygiene, and health behaviours in the provinces of Cabinda, Huambo, Luanda, Lunda Norte, Malanje, Uige, and Zaire. The operation has been extended by one month to accommodate the third round of vaccination in

September and now targets two additional provinces—Moxico and Cuando Cubango— which along with Malanje had the least coverage and required additional support. To date, approximately 1,243,532 children under 5 have been vaccinated against polio in the targeted provinces. CVA volunteers supported with community mobilisation, registration, and vaccination activities.

Angola Hunger Crises	
Appeal number	MDRAO007
Duration	24 months
Funding requirements	Total IFRC: CHF 8 million Total Federation-wide: CHF 10 million 2023 IFRC: CHF 8 million 2023 Federation-wide: CHF 10 million
Emergency Appeal	Appeals IFRC

Summary of the operation

Angola is facing its worst drought in 40 years, severely impacting the southern provinces - Huila, Cunene, and Namibe. This ongoing drought has significantly reduced agricultural productivity and worsened food insecurity. An estimated 1.58 million people were forecasted to be severely food insecure, with 1.16 million in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) and 416,660 in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency). An analysis of 17 southern municipalities revealed that between July and September 2021 to 2022, about 1.32 million people experienced high levels of acute food insecurity. Most these people, representing 58 percent of the population analysed, were from Namibe, Cunene and Huila. The severe acute food insecurity in this region can largely be attributed to the persistent impacts of drought, which have diminished agricultural and livestock production and driven up food prices. Additionally, the drought exacerbates the already compromised water supply system, affecting 1.2 million people who suffer from water shortages. Consequently, limited access to water contributes to poor sanitation and hygiene conditions and reduces agricultural production, which exacerbates the issue of acute malnutrition, a public health concern in the drought-affected southern provinces of Angola, where 114,000 children below the age of five are acutely malnourished. ³






Through the [Emergency Appeal](#) , CVA responded to the food insecurity crisis caused by droughts and other compounding issues, aiming to save lives, halt, and reverse the deterioration of food security and nutrition, and improve the resilience of the affected populations. The proposal was to meet the most urgent needs of 328.883 people (50.597 households) through a cash plus approach that integrated multipurpose cash assistance with other relevant 5 components (such as nutrition, hygiene promotion, protection, risk reduction), thus strengthening the overall approach to food insecurity. A total of **9.873 people (1.600 HH) have been directly supported and 260.037 people were indirectly supported.**

Targeting the most affected provinces (Cunene, Huila and Namibe), with the support from the Italian Red Cross in the provinces of Huila and Cunene, as well as by the Japanese government in the province of Namibe. Although the project was initially scheduled to conclude in 2023, a no-cost extension of three months, from January 1st to March 31st, 2024, for Namibe. The delay was due to a multifaceted set of factors, including prolonged volunteer and beneficiary selection, limited supplier engagement, and post-selection complications. This emergency appeal was

³ [Document - Global Report on Food Crises \(GFRC\) 2024 \(unhcr.org\)](#)

further extended from 01 January to December 31, 2024, and aims to support 330,000 people (66,000HH) in three provinces of Cunene, Huila, Namibe in southern and eastern part of Angola.

In summary, the following have been the key achievements from CVA:

SECTOR	PROGRESS OF KEY ACTIVITIES
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1000 households benefited from 3 cycles of food parcel distribution in Namibe Province, Municipalities of Virei and Camucuio. • 200 households provided with agriculture tools and seeds. • 20 households received small animals for breeding. • Conducted community education sessions on the good use of food, agriculture techniques, care, protection and management of the animals (goats – each family received 3 goats). The sessions were facilitated in collaboration with the Local Agriculture Authorities.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 600 households (HHs) in the provinces of Cunene (300HHs) and Huila (300HHs) received multi-purpose direct cash in four installments, each installment consisted in equal parts of 26.000/CHF 28,00 per beneficiary totalizing an amount of AOA 104.000/ CHF 110,00 per family.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40.142 of which 26.051 women and 14.091 men were reached in health promotion sessions, while 32.233 of which 18,142 women and 14,091 men were addressed in nutrition education sessions. • Established 4 community kitchen benefiting 1,376 affected people, operating 2 times a week during a quarter. • Health and Nutrition community sessions conducted by 60 Red Cross Volunteers to 5,745 targeted people. • Screening of 4.163 children suspicious for malnourish and 124 were referred to the local health centers by the Red Cross Volunteers. • Community sensitization sessions on WASH were conducted by RC Volunteers, reaching a total of 6,415 people. • Mass media communication (radio spots), under CEA component was established, and 85,306 estimated people were reached from October 2023 to 31 March 2024. The Radio Spots covered Health and Nutrition, WASH, Livelihoods and PGI thematic, and broadcasted 3 times a week.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducted 276 community sessions on PGI by Red Cross Volunteers which benefited 5,648 people.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 221 people trained, of those 186 volunteers (66 for PDM) and 35 staff members trained in topics such as cash and voucher assistance, and equipped with multisectoral thematic of the Appeal, such as Livelihoods, CASH Assistance, Health and Nutrition, WASH and Distributions.

Sectors of intervention



Livelihoods

Objective:

Outcome 1 Improved food security of 328,880 vulnerable people in rural and urban areas facing acute food insecurity of crisis or worse levels by December 2023

Output 1.1 Targeted population receive relevant, adequate, and timely cash/voucher/in-kind support for essential food and other consumption needs during crisis period(s)

Food and basic needs to 1000HH

The Embassy of Japan in Angola generously contributed \$560,000 to the Appeal, accounting for approximately 5% of the total funding required to address the food crisis in Angola through 2023. This funding aimed to support 6,500 individuals (1,000 families) in the Namibe province, specifically in the municipalities of Virei and Camucuio, by providing immediate relief to combat food insecurity.

It is with great satisfaction that we report that all targeted households have successfully received in-kind support for their basic needs following identification. The third and final cycle of food parcel distribution reached a total of 1,000 households, with 500 households in the Virei municipality and 500 in the Camucuio municipality. This effort benefited 6,566 individuals, including 3,535 females and 3,031 males. This accomplishment highlights Angola Red Cross dedication to addressing the essential needs of our community members and ensuring equitable support across both municipalities. Each household received the below listed items:

Food parcels composition	
Maize flour	50 Kilograms
Vegetable Oil	5 Liters
Beans	10 Kilograms
Sugar	10 Kilograms



Figure 1. Distribution of food parcels and livestock in Namibe.

Furthermore, in March 2024, a total of 100 families in the Virei municipality, specifically in the Communes of Cainde and Virei-sede, received essential agricultural inputs to enhance their farming capabilities and foster community resilience. Each household was provided with seeds and agricultural tools, as detailed in the table below. The distribution event was meticulously coordinated, and involved five volunteers, a provincial delegate, a provincial coordinator, municipal technicians, social action representatives, firefighters, communal administrator, police officers, and local traditional leaders (sobas). Similarly, in the Camucuio Municipality, within the communes of Mamwé, Chingo, Cachimba, and Camucuio-sede, 100 families were also provided with seeds and agricultural tools to boost their agricultural productivity.

Through cooperation with local agricultural authorities, including stakeholders, technical experts, and community leaders, essential technical support was delivered to the community. This collaboration ensured that 200 households received the necessary agricultural tools and seed at the appropriate time to secure assistance and practice of climate-smart agriculture.

Farm materials composition	
Agricultural seeds	
5kg maize	
5kg millet (massango)	
5kg sorghum (massambala)	
10g watermelon seeds	
10g pumpkin seeds	
Agricultural tools	
1 hoe	
1 machete	
1 watering can	

To enhance protection of affected household productive assets, production, and income-generation CVA distributed small livestock to twenty household in the locality of Chikeya, within the commune of Caínde (Virei Municipality) and municipality of Camucuio in March 2024. The livestock distribution was intended to offer these families a reliable and sustainable source of income, thereby enhancing their resilience to economic and environmental difficulties. This effort is a component of a larger strategy designed to support and improve the livelihoods of vulnerable households in the area.



Multi-purpose Cash

Objective:

Households are provided with unconditional/multipurpose cash grants to address their basic needs.

An IFRC Cash Assistance Specialist Delegate was deployed to support the Angola Red Cross (CVA) on a 3-month mission. The Delegate worked with the National Society (NS) to conduct market assessments and identify 600 vulnerable families in the provinces of Cunene and Huíla.

The NS, with IFRC support, distributed multi-purpose cash/voucher assistance to 600 households, split evenly between Huíla and Cunene provinces. The assistance addressed urgent needs due to drought.

The cash distribution was delivered in four instalments, with a total value of AOA 104,000/CHF 110,000 per beneficiary. The transfer value was coordinated with local stakeholders, including the government, drawing on lessons from the Kwenda Cash Transfer program.

All activities were conducted in collaboration with local communities, authorities, and other humanitarian organizations. Strategic delivery points were established due to challenging access to localities.

The operation prioritized building the NS's capacity in Cash and Voucher Assistance, ensuring sustainability. This included providing essential resources, tools, and comprehensive training for staff and volunteers. A four-day training workshop was held in April 2023, involving NS staff from various levels, covering distribution modalities and operational procedures.

A total of 65% of the planned staff and volunteers were trained, with 60 volunteers and 18 staff members receiving training, further enhancing the NS's capacity to deliver effective assistance. In areas where cash was not distributed, a different approach, such as food parcels, was implemented.



Health & Care

(Mental Health and psychosocial support / Community Health / Medical Services)

Objective:

Strengthening holistic individual and community health of the population impacted through community level interventions and health system strengthening

The community faces significant challenges related to malaria, acute diarrhea, hypertension, and malnutrition. During mobilization sessions, families receive crucial information about the dangers of malnutrition, especially concerning children's health, emphasizing that when left untreated, it can lead to fatal consequences.

The primary objective of community sensitization on malnutrition is to ensure the well-being of families, ensuring that local children do not suffer from nutritional excesses or deficiencies, aiming to prevent morbidity and mortality. Throughout mobilization and Community Early Action sessions, mothers in the communities receive guidance on the importance of breastfeeding their children for a minimum period of twenty-three months.

Volunteers, armed with community information materials such as leaflets, pamphlets, technical support sheets, and breastfeeding manuals provided by the Municipal Directorate of Public Health and the Nutrition Department, conduct educational activities. Nine CVA team members and 124 volunteers from the Cunene and Huíla delegations were trained in health by the Ministry of Health.

In total a cumulative number of 40.142⁴ of which 26.051 women and 14.091 men were reached in health promotion sessions, while 32.233 of which 18,142 women and 14,091 men were addressed in nutrition education sessions. Additionally, nutritional screening was conducted in the affected communities, resulting in the monitoring of 4.579 children aged 0 to 5 years. Among these, 223 were referred to health centers in critical condition, and 57 achieved recoveries.

In Namibe, a child and nutrition campaign screened 4,163 children, with only 124 identified as severe cases needing further medical intervention. Although these severe cases represented a small fraction (around 3%), broader nutritional inadequacies were evident, indicating the need for a comprehensive strategy to improve overall child nutrition in the communities.

⁴ The hunger crisis appeal was initially planned to conclude in 2023. However, due to various challenges encountered during the implementation, it became necessary to extend the timeline, and the appeal was only completed in the first quarter of 2024.

A total of 276 Health and Nutrition Education sessions were conducted, reaching 5,745 people. These sessions focused on empowering communities with knowledge about healthy eating, nutritional practices, and healthcare, contributing to long-term health benefits.

Four out of six planned community kitchens were established in Namibe, benefiting children and caregivers by providing nutritious meals. The implementation faced challenges such as inconsistent ingredient supply and difficult access to kitchens, but the dedication of volunteers ensured the project's ongoing success.

The project successfully disseminated key messages on nutrition, health, and sanitation, enhancing the community's ability to access and use local services for malnutrition prevention and treatment.

During the implementation of the PDMs, beneficiaries in the municipalities reported receiving guidance from the CVA on the conscious use of the provided food. Despite facing the challenge of having large families, they have made efforts to follow this recommendation in the rational management of food resources.



Figure 2: Community kitchen in Virei municipality.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Objective:

Ensure safe drinking water, proper sanitation, and adequate hygiene awareness of the communities during relief and recovery phases of the Emergency Operation, through community and organizational interventions

During the project implementation, families were sensitized about the vital importance of water and sanitation, considered fundamental principles to enhance the quality of life of the population. When a family lacks access to clean water and efficient health services, they become vulnerable to various diseases, such as diarrhea, vomiting, typhoid fever, scabies, among others.

Throughout the awareness and health promotion sessions focused on water, sanitation, and hygiene, families realized that the lack of access to clean water, adequate sanitation, and hygiene practices are the main contributing factors to infectious diseases, resulting in malnutrition and child mortality.

The WASH initiatives focus on ensuring families have access to adequate water and basic sanitation, also aiming to eliminate open defecation practices in rural communities. During the sessions, leaflets and pamphlets containing information on basic sanitation, health, hygiene, and water treatment for consumption were distributed, encouraging families to adopt increasingly resilient practices, aiming to reduce diseases and prevent child mortality.

A cumulative⁴ number of **47.428 families were impacted through water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion campaigns** in Cahama and Quilengues Municipalities (Cunene and Huíla Provinces) and in Virei and Camucuio Municipalities (Namibe Province). Despite the lack of funds, some activities were implemented in an integrated way with other activities such as health and nutrition education and hygiene. Through a multi-pronged approach, the project effectively disseminated important messages on nutrition, health, and sanitation to the target population in Namibe. 300 radio spots were utilized to reach the entire provincial audience, serving as a mass communication channel to reinforce community education on key issues such as Health and Nutrition, WASH, Livelihoods, and Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI). It is estimated that the radio spots alone reached an audience of 85.306 people across the province. This widespread coverage helped create awareness and set the stage for more targeted community mobilization sessions.

Complementing the radio campaign, the Red Cross Volunteers conducted direct engagement with community's through community mobilization sessions were in Virei, a total of 5,108 individuals (2,861 women and 2,247 men) were reached. Similarly, in Camucuio, 637 people (380 women and 257 men) were reached through these community mobilization efforts. However, the team faced challenges in accessing the more remote areas of Camucuio, leading to lower numbers in this province compared to Virei.



Protection, Gender and Inclusion

Objective:

Communities identify the needs of the most at risk and particularly disadvantaged and marginalized groups, due to inequality, discrimination and other non-respect of their human rights and address their distinct needs

Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) activities were seamlessly integrated into all aspects of the program across the provinces of Huila, Cunene, and Namibe. These efforts reached 174,731 individuals, achieving 53% of the target population.

In Huila and Cunene, PGI sessions were incorporated into cash distribution activities, ensuring that beneficiaries were engaged in critical discussions on protection and inclusion during these distributions. In Namibe, PGI efforts extended beyond direct sessions to include radio campaigns that significantly amplified the reach of these initiatives. Through 300 radio spots, the program effectively communicated key messages on Health and Nutrition, WASH, Livelihoods, and PGI, covering the entire provincial audience and reinforcing community education on these essential topics.

This comprehensive approach ensured that PGI principles were not only taught but also embedded into the broader context of community support, creating a more inclusive and aware environment across the three provinces.

To support these efforts, briefing and orientation sessions on PGI were conducted for 201 individuals (volunteers and staff) involved in field activities, with a focus on balanced gender representation, where 52% of the volunteers were female. The National Society is currently working on developing its policies on PGI and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA). These orientation sessions ensured that all involved were well-prepared to address PGI challenges and promote inclusive practices during the project.



Community Engagement and Accountability

Objective:

Assisted by the IFRC's Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting (PMER) team, the CVA successfully conducted comprehensive Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) activities, which were crucial for community engagement and improving the overall program implementation. 66 volunteers around the 2 provinces were trained and equipped with the necessary tools to carry out these PDMs, reflecting the program's commitment to gender balance and community involvement.

This monitoring process evaluated various aspects such as the distribution process, beneficiary comfort, risks, challenges in accessing aid, decision-making, expenditure on assistance, and awareness of the complaint mechanism and feedback system.

The feedback from the PDMs provided valuable insights that led to timely adjustments and significant improvements during the final distribution phases. These immediate refinements ensured a more efficient and effective process, directly addressing the challenges identified in earlier phases and enhancing the overall delivery of assistance to the beneficiaries.

PDMs were instrumental in refining the project's strategies and ensuring that the feedback loop between the community and the implementers was active and effective. The findings and recommendations from the initial PDM cycle led to significant enhancements, such as the inclusion of Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) and PGI sessions before distributions, the establishment of a feedback mechanism, and the introduction of a dedicated desk for complaints and recommendations.

These activities improved the project's immediate outcomes and laid the foundation for better practices in future initiatives. The success of the changes implemented after the first PDM cycle, where previously reported issues were resolved in subsequent distributions, underscores the importance of PDM in enhancing the effectiveness, efficiency, and impact of humanitarian interventions.



Figure 3. Beneficiary interview, during PDM survey, for satisfaction perceptions in Camucuo municipality.



Risk Reduction, climate adaptation and Recovery

Objective:

During the implementation of the HC program, various initiatives addressing environmental topics were undertaken, albeit with limitations due to resource constraints and shifting priorities. Community mobilization sessions emphasized the importance of planting fruit trees around homesteads, along with discussions on preserving the existing trees and avoiding slash-and-burn practices. These measures were aimed at preserving the quality of the soil for agriculture, as the widespread falling of trees for firewood—driven by hunger—was affecting the fertility of the soil.

Additionally, capacities training was provided to farmers to use climate drought-adapted seeds. A pilot session was conducted in Quilengues Municipalities, where 40 farmers participated. It promoted climate-smart agriculture for farmers and herders, aiming to adapt to climate change.

The program ensures that the most vulnerable populations receive immediate food and nutritional assistance while addressing climate risks to increase community resilience to future shocks.

Strategic Priorities

Climate and environment

In the first semester, the CVA focused on reviewing its environmental response strategies at the provincial level. A Tree Planting and Care Initiative was developed in the previous year, CVA has been actively engaging in cross-cutting activities to promote environmental preservation during its ongoing operations. These efforts have been particularly evident in the promotion of fruit trees, underscoring the CVA's commitment to integrating environmental sustainability into its programs, even as it refines its broader strategies for environmental action.

Outcome 1.2: The IFRC Network adopts environmentally sustainable practices and contributes to climate change mitigation.

To further address environmental concerns, CVA has developed a concept note for a resource mobilization strategy. This document aims to secure funding from private sector partners and international governments represented in Angola, specifically to support the Tree Planting and Care Initiative. Although plans for tree planting activities were underway, the execution was pending a meeting with the Ministry of Agriculture for guidance on the appropriate planting schedule and permitted species. Additionally, CVA volunteers participated in government-led tree planting campaigns, further contributing to environmental conservation efforts. Despite these initial steps, the full implementation of environmental activities remains contingent upon securing the necessary resources and aligning with national environmental guidelines.

Disasters and crises

In the first half of the year, the Angola Red Cross (CVA) was deeply involved in responding to several critical emergencies that impacted the country. After the severe floods in November 2023, which caused widespread devastation, CVA swiftly applied for a Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to provide much-needed humanitarian assistance to those affected⁵. With support from the IFRC, CVA aimed to directly support 19,200 people (2,200 households) across the provinces of Bié, Luanda, and Malanje. The support was delivered through targeted interventions in livelihoods via cash assistance, health, and WASH, while also integrating Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) and Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) to ensure that communities were included in all stages of the response. After achieving the initial objectives and following a government request for further support, the operation was scaled up to reach a total of 3200 households with cash assistance.

In May, a new challenge arose when a polio outbreak was declared, classified as a Grade 2 emergency. The Angolan government, recognizing the critical nature of this outbreak, requested the support from CVA during the Ordinary Meeting of the Interagency Coordination Committee (CCI). In response, CVA applied for a second DREF⁶, aimed at covering seven provinces—Zaire, Cabinda, Lunda Norte, Uige, Huambo, Malanje, and Luanda. The operation focused on supporting

⁵ [Angola: Floods - DREF Operational \(MDRAO008\) - Angola](#)
⁶ [Angola - Polio DREF Operation \(MDRAO009\) - Angola](#)

the national vaccination campaign, targeting 1.243.532 children under the age of five. Additionally, it aimed to reach the same number of families through a mass communication campaign centered on health and hygiene promotion. In priority municipalities, 5.600 households were selected to benefit from focused community sessions. As polio cases rise and the Ministry of Health plans to conduct a third National Immunization Day in September, this operation has been scaled up and now the target population increased by 193,885 because NS will now target two additional provinces (Moxico and Cuando Cubango). This initiative was designed to halt the spread of the polio virus, improve living conditions, and bolster the Angolan government's response, led by the Ministry of Health.

Outcome 2.1: Communities take action to increase their resilience to evolving and multiple shocks and hazards.

As part of the DREF Floods operation, CVA shared risk information and promoted community actions to improve community resiliency and preparedness to hazards. This effort aligns with the indicator that at-risk communities share and receive actionable risk information. The ongoing efforts led by volunteers, are vital to strengthening at-risk communities. Through the continuous sharing of actionable information, practical action, and ongoing support, CVA aims to enhance their resilience and ability to address the risks and hazards they face. To ensure that communities are prepared for timely and effective mitigation, response, and recovery to crises and disasters, including early action, it is crucial to develop structured strategies. While this initial exchange of information, both within CVA at the programmatic level, and with communities through dissemination of IEC materials, is a critical first step, it is essential that future projects build on this foundation by translating shared information into practical actions. This will involve providing more comprehensive training and education to communities, enabling them to effectively apply the knowledge they have gained. For example, through enhanced vulnerability and capacity assessments. Although this idea has been in the pipeline, it has not yet been practically implemented. However, CVA is planning to conduct a first round of EVCA's in the remainder of the year. CVA also continues to agree on the necessity of a Guide to Developing Prevention Strategies to make this an effective and feasible plan, as well as the creation and development of Early Action Programs. The development of early action protocols (EAPs) requires a structured and collaborative approach. Recognizing this need, it has been agreed with the IFRC to provide support in creating these EAPs. By following the outlined steps, with careful attention to the stages of planning, implementation, and evaluation, it is possible to develop strategies that help prevent and mitigate future challenges in terms of crises and disasters.

Outcome 2.2a: People affected by crises and disasters have their needs met through access to in-kind assistance and support that is timely, adequate and flexible and strengthens their agency.

Outcome 2.2c: Food security and Livelihoods. People affected by crises and disasters have their food needs met, and income sources improved

Outcome 2.2d: Multi-purpose cash grants. People affected by crises and disasters have their needs met through multi-purpose cash grants

In times of crisis, in-kind assistance and support has played a crucial role in ensuring the well-being of vulnerable populations. During the drought and floods, this assistance became a lifeline,

reaching families across six provinces. During the Angola floods DREF, CVA, with the support of IFRC, provided essential shelter support to the most affected people in the provinces of Bié, Luanda, and Malanje. CVA volunteers assisted the Civil Protection and Fire Department in evacuating individuals from crisis-affected areas to safer locations, while also safeguarding their household belongings. A total of 1,300 individuals benefited from this assistance. Additionally, awareness sessions on safe construction practices were conducted, targeting those who had begun rebuilding efforts to ensure the construction of more resilient structures. These sessions reached 7,500 people.

Local communities, familiar with their own needs, were able to identify priorities, allowing Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA), with the support of IFRC, to play a fundamental role in crisis response. This collaboration mobilized resources and expertise to deliver timely and contextually appropriate assistance. People affected by the hunger crisis and disasters faced significant challenges, including loss of income, shelter, and access to basic resources. This has led to food insecurity and financial difficulties within the affected communities in the beginning of the year as the result of the severe floods that happened in Angola. The Food Security and Livelihoods (FSL) safety net cash transfers provided direct and immediate financial support to individuals and families in crisis situations through the DREF approved in late December 2023. These transfers were timely, regular, and predictable. 98 % of the target, approximately 18,257 people (3,143 families) have witnessed and experienced the benefits of the cash transfers delivered by CVA, with the support of the IFRC. These safety net cash transfers are helping and will continue to help ensure that affected people have access to essential resources such as food, clean water, healthcare, and safe shelter. This assistance helps reduce vulnerability and promote recovery. In preparation for the cash distribution, 307 individuals, including focal groups, staff, volunteers, and partners, were trained to enhance the effectiveness of the operation and expand support. Despite challenges such as disrupted services due to poor road conditions and increased transportation costs, the assistance provided was timely and appropriate, thanks to coordinated efforts with the government and other organizations, ensuring that the needs of those affected by crises and disasters were effectively met.

The food insecurity has been ongoing in the southern provinces of Angola for several years and continues to deteriorate as the result of persistent and recurring drought, extreme weather conditions, and economic shocks.

Recently CVA successfully concluded a Food Security and Livelihoods (FSL) program that was designed to support the hunger crisis in the southern provinces of Angola, which have been the most severely affected by drought. This Emergency Appeal (EA) was initially launched in 2022 to address the growing food insecurity in Angola. However, as the crisis continued to worsen, the appeal was revised, scaled up, and extended in 2023 to respond to the prolonged and deepening food crisis in the region. The recent revision of the EA to be extended until December 2024 is strategic in addressing escalating acute food insecurity resulting from political unrest, economic challenges, and climatic threats such as El Niño. Within this broader appeal, 10 million CHF has been specifically requested to support CVA's efforts in assisting nearly 330,000 people (66,000HH) who are facing acute food insecurity in the provinces of Namibe, Huíla, and Cunene.

To date, only **16%** of the required funds have been mobilized, allowing support to reach directly around **3%** (9.873 people) of beneficiaries with Cash and Voucher and in-kind support and indirectly supported **79%** (260.037 people) through nutritional campaigns (through community mobilizations and radio campaigns). The number of direct beneficiaries still represents a very

small fraction of the total needed. This highlights the significant gap between identified needs and available resources, emphasizing the importance of intensifying fundraising efforts to ensure that the humanitarian response reaches all those in urgent need. CVA remains committed to working with partners and donors to secure the remaining necessary resources, enabling the expansion of operations to fully assist the targeted population.

Angola remains on the list of countries targeted by the appeal for continued response to the food crisis. However, this intervention's continuation is contingent on mobilizing additional funds. While awaiting this crucial funding, CVA is actively exploring alternative approaches and seeking partnerships with various actors to ensure the sustained support and resilience of the affected populations.

Outcome 2.3: National Societies respond effectively to the wide spectrum of evolving crises and disasters, and leverage their auxiliary role in emergency response

Over time, the national society has significantly strengthened its collaboration with FSL actors, recognizing the importance of working together to achieve common goals. This enhanced cooperation has been crucial in ensuring synergy of efforts and maximizing partnerships with organizations like IFRC, OCHA, WFP, FRESAN, Civil Protection, FAO, UNICEF, and others.

The collaboration between the national society and FSL actors is strengthening capacities, facilitating knowledge sharing, and promoting the exchange of best practices, all while helping to prevent duplication of efforts.

Health and wellbeing

Outcome 3.1: National Societies capitalise on their auxiliary role to ensure their position on relevant country-level public health strategy, advocacy and policy platforms and mechanisms.

The Angolan Red Cross made significant progress during the first half of 2024 in providing assistance to the most vulnerable populations, thereby reaffirming its role as an auxiliary to public authorities. With support from IFRC, the organization has been actively engaged in supporting the Angolan government's efforts to mitigate the impact of public health issues and endemic diseases, particularly along the extensive borders shared with the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Zambia. As an example, in the week of May 3rd, 2024, Angolan health authorities announced the detection of polio cases in the Chitato Municipality of Lunda Norte province, which borders the DRC. The identification of these cases necessitated a large-scale, rapid emergency response in line with international polio outbreak response protocols and the sub-regional emergency response plan. In its capacity as an auxiliary to public authorities, CVA requested a Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to respond to the polio outbreak in Angola ([DREF Polio](#)). Under the direct coordination with the Angolan Ministry of Health, the National Society supported vaccination campaigns across several provinces.

Through the DREF, it was possible to support the efforts of the Ministry of Health in the provinces of Huambo, Luanda, Lunda Norte, Malanje, Uíge, Cabinda and Zaíre. CVA volunteers in 13 municipalities across these seven provinces contributed to the direct vaccination of 1,243,532 children under 5. A total of 220 volunteers were deployed to ensure campaign coverage in the municipalities of Cacucaco, Cazenga, Viana, Massango, Ecuinha, Huambo, Chicala Tchilohanga,

Chitato, Lucaba, Cambulo, Kimbele, and Mbanza Kongo. These volunteers were integral members of vaccination teams, which included 48 vaccinators, 108 mobilizers, and 43 recorders.

Beyond vaccination, the volunteers played an advocacy role through door-to-door and mass mobilization efforts, reaching approximately 156,000 people through mass mobilization activities conducted in markets, taxi stands, churches, and other crowded places.

This comprehensive response underscores the commitment of the Angolan Red Cross to supporting public health efforts and protecting vulnerable populations from the threat of polio.

Moreover, the Angolan Red Cross (CVA) is an active member of key coordination platforms such as the Interagency Coordination Committee (CCI), which includes the Ministry of Health (MINSA), WHO, UNICEF, and other partners. The CVA has been actively involved in coordination meetings for polio vaccination campaigns, as well as strategy meetings to combat cholera outbreaks in provinces bordering the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), which has experienced outbreaks of cholera, malaria, and other endemic diseases. The CVA also regularly participates in national platforms focused on public health advocacy.

At the provincial level, CVA's provincial delegations actively engage in coordination meetings. During the first semester, these delegations participated in meetings with government authorities and partners, where several key issues were discussed:

World Health Organization (WHO): Discussions included not only polio vaccination campaigns but also general health promotion, community engagement, access to communities, and vaccine/information acceptance. Strategically, CVA is exploring continued collaboration with WHO to:

- 1- Expand potential long-term projects in social mobilization for community health promotion and health agents.
- 2- In September (dates to be confirmed), MINSA/WHO/UNICEF will conduct the 3rd round of the national polio campaign, aiming to reach 5.5 million children. CVA may consider supporting WHO in community engagement and social mobilization activities, particularly in areas where WHO has difficulty reaching, such as Moxico, Cuando Cubango, and Malanje.

UNICEF: Discussions covered not only polio campaigns but also issues related to water and sanitation, routine vaccination, and general health promotion. Topics included community engagement, access to communities, and addressing endemic diseases.

Provincial Health Directorate: Discussions focused on polio campaigns, routine vaccination, and general health promotion. The Provincial Government of Luanda expressed interest in CVA volunteers supporting the government in implementing the "Health at Your Doorstep" project. This initiative involves volunteers going door-to-door in remote areas with limited healthcare infrastructure to identify sick individuals and refer them to healthcare facilities.

Outcome 3.2: The health and wellbeing of communities are protected and improved through access to sustainable, affordable, appropriate, and quality health services across the life course

With focus on delivering evidence-based and impact-driven health promotion, disease prevention, and community-based care activities to vulnerable populations, CVA has actively engaged 350

volunteers across the provinces of Cabinda, Benguela, Bié, Kwanza Norte, Huambo, Luanda, Lunda Norte, Malanje, Uíge, and Zaíre under various emergency operations. These volunteers have been instrumental in preventive health promotion through community sensitization efforts on various health issues, including Malaria, Tuberculosis, Cholera, Polio, Dengue, HIV/AIDS, Measles.

Additionally, CVA operates a healthcare network that includes five health units. Through its network of health posts, it provided assistance to a total of 53,683 people during the first semester of 2024, covering various areas of care as detailed in Table 2 below.

Table 1. People assisted at the CVA Health centers during the 1st half of the year.

CVA Health Post	Clinical Consultations	Prenatal Care	Childcare	Children Vaccinated	Women Vaccinated	Workshops	Home Visits	Total
Camunda	8021	3210	12342	4349	6345	156	14	34437
Calomanga	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cassiva	3740	891	594	398	401	100	19	6143
Tchimbassi	2871	674	442	306	292	102	23	4710
Passagem	5382	1009	822	431	592	124	33	8393
Total	20014	5784	14200	5484	7630	482	89	53683

Significant strides have been made in supporting vulnerable communities and addressing public health challenges, aligning its efforts with key health indicators.

Moreover, CVA mobilized over 500 voluntary blood donors in several provinces, supporting national health initiatives and ensuring a steady supply of blood donations. In its fight against malaria and other endemic diseases, CVA conducted awareness campaigns that supported the government's "Zero Malária Começa Comigo" campaign, contributing to sustained national targets for vector-borne disease interventions.

In Benguela province, supported by the Global Fund through UNDP and ADPP, CVA implemented the Community HIV/AIDS and TB Project. CVA led the Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission (PMTCT) and Antiretroviral Treatment (ART) components, focusing on community sensitization, HIV counseling and testing, and ensuring that children remain HIV-free, and below are the achievements of the 1st half of the year.

Indicator	Achieved	Target
From 1 de Jan a 30 de Jun de 2024		
<i>Number of people with HIV identified in the community through the index case</i>	36	38
<i>Number of HIV patients referred and who started antiretroviral treatment at the health unit</i>	36	23
<i>Number of exposed children referred who started treatment at health units</i>	16	1
<i>Number of exposed children being followed up in the community</i>	16	1
<i>Number of HIV+ patients referred and who started antiretroviral treatment at the health unit</i>	379	1688
<i>Number of HIV+ patients followed and monitored in the community</i>	379	1391
<i>Number of HIV+ patients who underwent viral load testing</i>	134	621

Indicator	Achieved	Target
<i>Number of pregnant women with HIV identified in the community</i>	62	608
<i>Number of pregnant women with HIV followed and monitored in the community who started Prevention of Vertical Transmission at the health unit</i>	110	478
<i>Number of pregnant women with HIV referred and who started Prevention of Vertical Transmission at the health unit</i>	110	478
<i>Number of exposed children identified (Exposed children under 18 months)</i>	93	433
<i>Number of exposed children tested with DPI (3rd Virological Test)</i>	92	1
<i>Number of exposed children with definitive results (HIV-free children)</i>	47	40
<i>Number of community agents trained and involved in providing community-based services</i>	80	80
<i>Number of IEC materials distributed through the components</i>	6150	75976
<i>Number of condoms distributed through the components</i>	40227	4395
<i>Number of advocacy meetings held with community leaders, religious groups, NGOs, traditional authorities, health units, local authorities, including local HIV/AIDS committees</i>	44	44
<i>Number of IEC sessions on Prevention of Vertical Transmission conducted in the community, included during prenatal consultations</i>	7692	7692
<i>Number of home visits conducted by Community Agents to pregnant women with HIV</i>	948	10397
<i>Number of Mutual Help Group meetings dedicated to pregnant women with HIV organized with the support of the Sub-recipient</i>	85	537
<i>Number of IEC sessions conducted by Community Agents, focusing on adherence to Antiretroviral Treatment</i>	784	784
<i>Number of home visits conducted by Community Agents to People Living with HIV and undergoing treatment</i>	914	914
<i>Number of support sessions from the Sub-recipient to the Mutual Help Group for People Living with HIV</i>	117	563
<i>Number of monthly meetings with Community Agents</i>	12	14

Outcome 3.3: The health and dignity of communities in emergencies and disease outbreaks are maintained by providing access to appropriate health services.

Significant progress was made to ensure dignity of communities and focusing on preparing and responding to the health consequences of disasters and crises, including epidemics and pandemics. CVA, supported by IFRC, took proactive steps to enhance its capacity to respond effectively to health emergencies.

In the context of Polio DREF, a total of 199 volunteers received training from the Public Health Departments at municipality level on Polio, Vaccines, how to administer vaccines, hand hygiene, vaccine storage, social mobilization techniques, and other topics. Through IFRC and CVA 9 staff members and 20 volunteers were trained in health, hygiene, water, and sanitation, equipping them with the necessary skills to act in case of disasters, including epidemics and pandemics. This comprehensive training aimed to ensure that CVA was adequately prepared to address the health impacts of various crises.

As part of the DREF response to floods, 90 volunteers received specialized training in EPIC (Epidemic Preparedness in Communities), CBHFA (Community-Based Health and First Aid), and

health and hygiene promotion. These trained volunteers, along with focal groups, played a crucial role in disseminating health and hygiene promotion campaigns.

Migration and displacement

Outcome 4.1: Migrants and displaced persons have access to humanitarian assistance and protection at key points along migratory routes as well access to durable solutions when appropriate.

With technical and financial support from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), CVA continues to provide essential Restoring Family Links (RFL) services to refugees and migrants in the Lovua Refugee Camp and in Luanda. These services include the exchange of Red Cross Messages, telephone calls, internet connectivity, and phone charging services, all aimed at helping displaced individuals reconnect with their families and maintain crucial lines of communication.

The ongoing support is particularly vital given the challenges faced by migrants and asylum seekers in Angola, many of whom remain mobile in search of livelihoods. This mobility often puts them at risk of detention or deportation to their countries of origin. According to the International Organization for Migration (IOM), over 77,700 Congolese migrants were expelled since April 2024, with many coming from the North Kivu region of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and other regions of the country⁷.

Through its advocacy and humanitarian diplomacy efforts, the CVA is working to raise awareness about the vulnerabilities of these migrants and to build partnerships that enhance the protection and support available to them. This work is crucial in addressing the complex challenges faced by migrants and displaced people in Angola, ensuring they receive the assistance they need in an increasingly difficult environment.

Aiming to address the medium to long-term assistance and protection needs of migrants and displaced people, including IDPs, through integration and social inclusion activities, a part of the RFL program, CVA provided support to some migrants and internally displaced persons (IDPs) by assisting them through various Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and livelihoods projects. These include the distribution of food and livelihood support implemented in southern Angola, cash and voucher assistance provided during the DREF floods response in northern and central Angola, and social mobilization during campaigns aimed at preventing major endemic diseases or outbreaks. These individuals were included based on the inclusion and protection criteria for the most vulnerable, which are currently in effect at CVA. By adhering to these criteria, CVA ensures that the most disadvantaged, including migrants and IDPs, receive the support they need. This approach reflects the organization's commitment to prioritizing those most in need and ensuring their integration and protection within host communities.

Values, power and inclusion

CVA has made substantial progress in embedding Community Engagement and Accountability into its operations across various projects. Through volunteer training, feedback mechanisms,

⁷ <https://www.iom.int/news/alarmed-humanitarian-crisis-eastern-drc-calls-urgent-action-protect-vulnerable-populations>

community engagement sessions, and strategic integration, CVA is strengthening its role as a responsive and accountable humanitarian organization

Volunteer Training and Code of Conduct

During Angola Floods operation, a total of 105 volunteers were trained to assist in the selection of the most vulnerable beneficiaries, ensuring that aid reached those in greatest need. Additionally, 90 volunteers signed the code of conduct, committing to support Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) activities, which were mainstreamed throughout the operation to uphold the dignity and safety of beneficiaries. Similarly, during the Angola Polio campaign, volunteers received briefings on the code of conduct, child protection, and preventing and responding to sexual exploitation and abuse. These volunteers were also oriented on CEA and the minimum requirements for feedback management and Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE).

Feedback Mechanisms

The establishment of effective two-way feedback systems has been a critical component of CEA efforts. In the Angola Floods operation, a feedback system was implemented with suggestion boxes placed at all distribution centers, allowing beneficiaries to voice their grievances. Volunteers played a key role in explaining how and where people could submit their complaints. Similarly, in the Angola Polio campaign, a two-way feedback system was established, including the signing of contracts with radio stations to broadcast hygiene messages in local languages three times a day for three months. Additionally, Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials were printed and distributed in public spots to enhance community awareness.

Community Engagement Sessions

CVA has been proactive in integrating CEA into all project activities. During the Hunger Crisis response, 174,731 people participated in gender and inclusion protection sessions and CEA sessions. These sessions were instrumental in overcoming barriers related to social inclusion, taboos, cultural habits, and deeply rooted customs. Joint CEA sessions ensured community involvement in the selection criteria for beneficiaries, fostering transparency and trust between the CVA and the affected communities.

Strategic Integration of CEA and PGI

CVA has recognized the importance of CEA and PGI by introducing these approaches to the National Executive Council. The leadership has acknowledged the need for both CEA and PGI policies and strategies, which will be incorporated into the next Strategic Plan of the National Society.

Enabling functions

In addition to the IFRC, CVA receives support from other partners. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), which has been present in Angola since 1975, closed its offices in Angola in 2009. However, ICRC continues to support the CVA and the Government of Angola in key programs, such as restoring family links and raising community awareness to prevent mine accidents, as well as cooperating to ensure the sustainability of the National Society.

CVA also receives support from the Italian Red Cross, which is assisting in the development of CVA's volunteer management capabilities and broader National Society Development.

Strategic and operational coordination

During the reporting period, CVA has actively engaged in external coordination efforts, reinforcing its auxiliary role to the public authorities. The National Society collaborated closely with government entities, particularly in responding to public health challenges and disasters, such as the polio outbreak and floods. These efforts highlight CVA's commitment to supporting national initiatives and demonstrate its critical role in connecting vulnerable communities with essential services. In addition to its work with government bodies, it made significant progress in participating in inter-agency coordination mechanisms alongside the IFRC, other IFRC Network partners, and international actors such as UN agencies, INGOs, and embassies.

External Coordination

- **Government Relations:** CVA has established and maintained strong relationships with government authorities at the central and provincial levels. This collaboration is evidenced by CVA's active participation in coordination meetings across various levels of government, linking its response efforts with existing government-led mechanisms focused on climate and drought, social safety nets, and food security.
- **Humanitarian Coordination Platforms:** CVA plays a critical role in national and regional humanitarian coordination platforms, participating in key working groups such as:
 - The Food Security and Nutrition Working Group (FSNWG)
 - The Regional Interagency Standing Committee (RIASCO)
 - The Disaster Response Coordination Team (DRCT) - Strategic Coordination
 - The DRCT - Operational Coordination (technical)
 - The Joint Coordination Team for Drought Actions in Southern Angola (involving Government, United Nations, and NGOs) - High-Level Coordination
 - The Operational Coordination Mechanism (technical) of Civil Protection for Disasters
- **Engagement with UNOCHA:** CVA engaged with UNOCHA, exchanging critical information to align on humanitarian priorities and response strategies, further solidifying its role in the broader national and regional strategies.

Membership Coordination

- **Coordination with the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement:** CVA and the IFRC have fostered strong partnerships within the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, ensuring that the CVA's actions align with the broader objectives of the Movement. This coordination includes participation in country and regional humanitarian platforms, enhancing the effectiveness and reach of CVA's operations in Angola.
- **Future Partnerships:** Discussions facilitated by the IFRC with the Italian and Portuguese Red Cross Societies have opened avenues for future partnerships, potentially expanding the scope and impact of CVA's work in Angola.
- **Movement Coordination Agreement (MCA):** CVA and ICRC advanced their cooperation through discussions on the Movement Coordination Agreement, ensuring a more unified approach within the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in Angola.

Movement Coordination and Cooperation

- **IFRC and CVA Collaboration:** The IFRC has been instrumental in facilitating CVA's participation in significant coordination activities, including discussions with other Red Cross Societies (Italian and Portuguese), enhancing the collaborative efforts within the Movement.
- **Visit of the IFRC President:** The visit of the IFRC President led to significant engagement with key national stakeholders, reinforcing the auxiliary role of the CVA. This visit strengthened the CVA's relationships with the Office of the President and various ministries, including Health, Planning and Economics, Agriculture, Social Affairs, and Foreign Affairs, which is expected to yield stronger support for CVA's initiatives.



Figure 4: In a pivotal meeting with Mr. Yuri Valter de Sousa Santos, Angolan Secretary of State for Environment, President Forbes was accompanied by Angola Red Cross leadership and the IFRC delegation. The gathering focused on Anticipatory Action and Tree Planting initiatives, marking a significant stride towards collaborative efforts in environmental stewardship.

Resource Mobilization (Domestic Fundraising and International Support)

- **Resource Mobilization Workshop:** IFRC played a pivotal role in facilitating CVA's participation in a Resource Mobilization Workshop in South Africa, organized by the ICRC. This opportunity equipped CVA with enhanced skills and strategies to sustain its operations.

- **Statutory Meetings Preparation:** Starting in February, IFRC provided critical training and facilitation for CVA in preparation for the Statutory Meetings in October 2024. This included support for participation in the SAPRCS Meeting with other Partner National Societies (PNSs) and Movement partners.

External Communications: CVA has taken proactive steps to improve its external communications, preparing infographics and brochures to enhance engagement with external stakeholders.

National Society development

CVA made significant strides in several areas related to its development strategy and priorities, statutory and legal frameworks, branch development, financial sustainability, internal systems, leadership, and volunteering and youth initiatives. These efforts were supported by both the IFRC and the Italian Red Cross.

Development Strategy and Priorities: CVA has been actively working on revising its Statute and developing a comprehensive pluriannual strategy, in progress. A key focus has been the creation of a National Society Development (NSD) strategy, which is currently in progress. These initiatives aim to strengthen the overall governance and operational framework of CVA, aligning its strategic objectives with the broader goals of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

Statutory and Legal Frameworks: The revision of the Statute and the Red Cross Youth Statute is a critical ongoing process aimed at ensuring that CVA's legal and statutory frameworks are robust and aligned with its evolving role. This revision is part of a broader effort to support CVA in planning and executing its strategic priorities effectively.

Branch Development and Financial Sustainability: CVA has achieved a milestone in branch development through the successful application and award of a Capacity Building Fund (CBF) project. This project, which includes the purchase of laptops, mobile phones, and IT materials for all branches, is a significant step towards enhancing the technological capabilities of the CVA at the branch level, thereby improving overall operational efficiency.

Internal Systems and Leadership: Efforts to strengthen CVA's internal systems are ongoing. This includes the implementation of a volunteer management system and securing volunteers' insurance, both of which are crucial for building a more resilient and responsive volunteer network. Additionally, CVA participated in a Resource Mobilization (RM) Workshop organized by the ICRC, which is expected to enhance its capacity to sustain its operations financially.

Volunteering and Youth: In volunteering and youth, CVA has developed a Youth Policy and a Volunteers' Policy, both ready for endorsement by the Governing Board. However, the planned Youth National Assembly will not take place this year due to funding constraints and the lack of a fully established structure. Nonetheless, CVA's participation in the Limitless initiative, facilitated by the IFRC, marks a positive step toward youth development, entrepreneurship, and innovation within the organization.

Alignment of International Support and Peer Exchange: CVA's alignment with international support and access to NSD funding streams has been a priority. The IFRC, along with other Movement partners, continues to facilitate CVA's engagement in global initiatives and workshops, ensuring that the National Society's development priorities are well-supported. For instance, the discussions surrounding the Movement Coordination Agreement (MCA) with the ICRC have been initiated, aiming to strengthen coordination and cooperation within the Movement in Angola.

Network's Joint Support: The joint support from the Network has been instrumental in CVA's progress. The Italian Red Cross and Portuguese Red Cross have expressed their commitment to supporting CVA, although this is still a work in progress. Additionally, the IFRC facilitated CVA's application to the Limitless initiative and supported its preparation for the Statutory Meetings and the Southern Africa Partnership of Red Cross Societies (SAPRCS) Meeting.

OCAC and BOCA Processes: Finally, discussions on the Organizational Capacity Assessment and Certification (OCAC) and Branch Organizational Capacity Assessment (BOCA) processes were initiated in the first half of the year. While CVA received a pledge of 4,000 CHF from GVA for OCAC, the absence of available facilitators has delayed the process. The BOCA process has been postponed until the OCAC can be completed.

Humanitarian diplomacy

The humanitarian diplomacy efforts of the Angola Red Cross, supported by the IFRC, have significantly elevated the organization's standing, positioning it as a critical player in the humanitarian landscape of Angola. Key initiatives, such as the high-profile visit of IFRC President Kate Forbes to Angola, underscored the commitment to addressing pressing challenges like food insecurity and health crises exacerbated by climate change. This marked a pivotal moment for the Angola Red Cross, as President Forbes' engagement with national leaders, including the President of Angola and several cabinet ministers, facilitated crucial dialogues that underscored the organization's capacity and commitment to serve vulnerable communities. These engagements have not only amplified the visibility of the Angola Red Cross but have also positioned it as a strategic partner in national humanitarian efforts.



Figure 5: President, Kate Forbes welcomed at the Presidential Palace by the President of the Republic of Angola H.E João Lourenço.

These humanitarian diplomacy efforts have effectively given the Angola Red Cross a "seat at the table," strengthening its influence and capacity to advocate for the needs of the most vulnerable. By fostering collaborations with key government ministries and securing high-level support, the Angola Red Cross has solidified its role in shaping national humanitarian policies and strategies. We intend to use this positioning to allow the national society to effectively mobilize resources, drive impactful initiatives, and ensure that its voice is heard in critical discussions that shape the future of humanitarian aid in Angola. The tangible outcomes of these efforts are evident in the strengthened partnerships and increased recognition of the Angola Red Cross as a contributor to the country's humanitarian and development agenda.

Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Accountability

CVA took significant steps towards strengthening its accountability mechanisms. The National Society updated its Code of Conduct (CoC) and is actively working on developing and finalizing key policies, including those for Youth and Volunteers (Y&V), Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI), Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), and Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA). These efforts are part of a broader initiative to embed a strong culture of

integrity within the organization. Additionally, CVA is in the process of developing a risk management framework and an integrity policy, which will further enhance its governance and operational standards. Discussions are ongoing regarding the support needed to finalize the Human Resources (HR) policy, which will be crucial for the continued development of CVA's workforce.

Digital Transformation and Resource Mobilization

In line with its commitment to digital transformation, CVA made significant progress in enhancing its operational capacity through strategic resource acquisition. With support from the Hunger Crises Appeal, CVA procured and distributed 16 computers to officers involved in appeal activities across its headquarters and targeted provinces. These technological upgrades have been instrumental in digitizing and streamlining branch operations, resulting in more efficient and effective project implementation.

Moreover, CVA allocated additional resources to bolster its operational capabilities, including the provision of a projector, 6 bicycles, and 5 motorcycles for staff and volunteers working on Hunger Crises operations. These resources have significantly improved the mobility and efficiency of teams on the ground, directly contributing to the success of humanitarian interventions.

Operational constraints – not for public versions

- **Nomadic Beneficiaries:** The nomadic nature of beneficiaries complicated the registration and selection process during the different operations, requiring additional time and resources to overcome.
- **Agricultural Timing:** During the hunger crises operations, agricultural authorities recommended delivering seeds and agricultural tools during the rainy season to prevent misuse (consumption or sale by beneficiaries) causing delays to the planned activities. But adhering to this advice ensures optimal resource utilization and aligns with long-term project objectives.
- **Volunteer Mobilization and Training:** Many volunteers had been inactive for years, making it necessary to mobilize and retrain them. This capacity-building effort is crucial for efficient project implementation but requires additional time and an extension to ensure proper execution.
- **Local Supplier Procurement:** The project's reliance on local suppliers demanded a thorough procurement process to ensure suppliers met accreditation and complied with both national and international standards. This careful selection, while necessary for maintaining project integrity, was time-consuming and contributed to delays in the project's timeline.

Risk management update - not for public versions

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
	Low/medium /high	Low/medium/ high	
1. Clear definition on the internal roles from the governance and management	Medium	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constant follow up and presence with the NS
2. Fraud, corruption, integrity issues	Medium	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closely monitor the risk register to ensure mitigation measures are in place. • Robust operational and financial. • oversight and monitoring. • Staff code of conduct. • Fraud and corruption training. • Monitoring missions
3. Lack of strategic position/Staff overwhelmed	High	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key definition of positions/duties. • Recruitment process in place
4. Limited Resources	Medium	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Securing additional funding. • Optimize resource allocation. • Seeking in-kind donations or partnerships.
5. Community Resistance	High	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducting community outreach and engagement, building trust through transparent communication, and addressing community concerns promptly.

Monitoring and Evaluation framework – not for public versions

No evaluations were conducted for the operations that took place during the first half of the year, as they were not eligible for such assessments. However, there was a possibility of carrying out a final evaluation for the Hunger Crisis Appeal, which extended into 2024. Unfortunately, due to a lack of funding, it was not possible to conduct this evaluation.

Annex – Success stories

1. Isabel, a 30-year-old woman living in the Sambizanga neighborhood in Malanje Province, is the mother of six children. She was abandoned by her husband, leaving her alone to provide for the family. Life was already challenging for Isabel, but it became even more difficult when part of her house was destroyed by heavy rains that struck the region.

However, in the midst of this adversity, Isabel found hope through the emergency project of the Red Cross, which aimed to support families affected by the floods. This project, supported by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, was crucial in helping her rebuild her life and home.



With the support she received, Isabel was able to buy iron and cement to repair the damaged part of her house. She also invested in her children's education by purchasing school uniforms, ensuring they could continue their studies despite the hardships. Additionally, Isabel was able to buy the necessary medication for her treatment, something that would have been impossible due to her financial situation.

Isabel's story is one of resilience and courage. Despite the challenges, with the right support, she managed to rebuild and provide a better life for her children. Today, Isabel stands as an example of how solidarity and humanitarian aid can transform lives and offer new hope for the future.

2. A man from Camucuio Municipality and Namibe Province benefited from the Hunger Crisis Appeal project, which aimed to support those affected by drought in southern Angola. Through the Angola Red Cross, with support from the IFRC, he received two goats. His community had never received assistance from any individual or organization before this. Thanks to this help, he now has four more goats. He expresses his gratitude to the Red Cross for the support extended to him and his community.

