

Annual Narrative Report Country Programmes

Extract

Country : ANGOLA
Year : 2012

1 Executive Summary

Overall no major adjustments were made to the NCA Angola country plan 2011 – 2015, and key partners and program areas were maintained.

In 2012, unprecedented achievements were made in the areas of strengthening civil society, particularly through the social monitoring program implemented by CICA. For the first time in Angola, large groups of civil society, represented by the churches, were mobilized and actively participated in defining priorities and needs for the communities in which they live and work. Reports were drawn up based on the systematic collection of data from Participatory Poverty Assessments (PPAs) and budget monitoring visits, providing the authorities with real recommendations and solutions.

Similar results were achieved in the water, sanitation and hygiene program, where community water groups were mobilized to contribute actively in the local platforms for debate and dialogue with the authorities.

A lot of resources were invested in the areas of HIV and AIDS, gender and climate justice primarily in order to facilitate processes within NCA and our partners which helped us adjust, improve and align our joint efforts to reach the goals set out in the strategic plan.

A key challenge continues to be the need to develop capacity and skills of both NCA and partners' staff in the areas of monitoring and documenting of results.

2 Global programmes¹

Programme: Gender Based Violence

2.1 Planned outcomes and indicators

Outcomes	Indicators
1. Faith- and community based organizations are mobilized to prevent and reduce all forms of harmful traditional practices.	1. Number of communities in which NCA and partners have implemented projects related to prevention and reduction of harmful practices. 2. Number of religious and traditional leaders that publicly denounce harmful practices such as domestic violence, early pregnancies and discrimination of women and girls.

¹ NCA Angola has chosen to report on the revised outcomes and indicators for 2012, although the revision was only carried out towards the end of 2012. One consequence is that in some cases, like in the chapter on HIV and AIDS, there are still limited results to show for in this report. Nevertheless, NCA Angola thinks that this decision is important, as it symbolizes an important change in the direction of our work within the different thematic areas. NCA Angola would like to emphasize this already in the report for 2012.

<p>2. Faith- and community based organizations have been influenced to transform and change beliefs, attitudes, behaviour and practices that uphold GBV.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No of FBOs and CBOs that have demonstrated social actions to reduced GBV. 2. Number of FBOs that have reviewed and improved own policies and practices that relate to gender discrimination and GBV. 3. No of FBOs making use of theological scripture that condemn GBV, ex. Tamar campaign material.
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2.2 Achievements and progress related to planned outcomes.

2.2.1 Achievements and progress reached past year

Gender-based violence is a reality that affects many women, due to the unequal power relations between men and women as well as gender discrimination. Based on this reality UCF, with support from NCA, has developed an economic skills training and empowerment program with 338 graduates in 2012 (of which 253 are women). In addition to gender issues, the participants acquire professional skills in terms of sewing and tailoring, computer science, decoration, literacy and pastry making.

NCA has through its partners UCF and CICA supported awareness-raising initiatives, education and communication. Both partners reached a total of 624 people (342 women and 282 men) through their awareness raising initiatives. Included in this number are 91 people who received psychosocial, care, treatment and legal assistance from UCF and CICA. The most relevant cases were related to psychological violence with 30 cases registered. An additional 53 women chose to break the silence of violence after having been introduced to the Tamar campaign.

During the year, UCF interacted directly with 401 people of whom 218 were men and 183 women. Victims of domestic violence requested and received support, and were enrolled in occupational therapy training courses like computer science and textile production.

Also in the scope of activities to combat gender violence, CICA held workshop and training sessions within the churches and communities. A total of 223 people participated in campaigns to raise awareness about gender-based violence: 159 women and 64 men.

In addition to lectures and awareness-raising campaigns, NCA also facilitated a process of institutional reviews of its partners (CICA, IEBA, and UCF) through an external long-term consultant and resource person. One of the main outcomes of this process was the conclusion that the churches have to create specific mechanisms to detect and combat gender-based violence. This led to significant changes in our partners' strategies, adjusting the focus to include medical, legal and psychological support to victims of gender based violence.

As a result of these changes, we anticipate that in 2013 the project proposals from CICA and IEBA on gender-based violence will have much stronger focus on care and support. The psychological, legal, social and health status of victims of gender-based violence will have a particular importance.

2.2.2 Analysis and comments of achievements

Since the National Assembly adopted the law against domestic violence (25/11) on July 14, 2011, social awareness on the problem of gender-based violence has increased. The law has played an important role in increasing the recognition of our partners that domestic violence is a crime.

One of the main challenges and recommendations arising from institutional reviews that NCA's partners went through in 2012 is the establishment in 2013 of a victims support network, with the purpose of reducing the level of negative impact of violence. This will bridge a serious gap in terms of the support victims of domestic violence receive from the churches and their leaders, being situated where people often go in search of support.

2.2.3 Results achieved in advocacy efforts

Although no major advocacy efforts were undertaken by partners towards external duty bearers and authorities, important efforts in lobbying internally within churches and partner organizations were made. The internal reflection processes that were facilitated by NCA within the partners UCF, IEBA and in particular CICA, were crucial in influencing positively how religious leaders relate to issues of gender and gender based violence in particular. As a concrete result, the partners' plans for 2013 focus on strengthening the capacities of the victims of gender based violence so that they can safeguard their own interests and receive spiritual, psychological, moral and legal support from their religious leaders.

2.3 Selected Output Indicators (SOI) - analysis of the numbers

The selected output indicator for this thematic area is: "Number of rights holders with knowledge about their right to a life free from gender based violence".

NCA Angola define rights holders as men and women, receiving and giving knowledge, and community activists.

"Knowledge of" is defined as having participated in at least a lecture on gender based violence in a rights based perspective or in a counseling session. Persons who participate in regular church services where the pastor preaches about GBV will for all practical purposes not be counted.

Programme: Resources and Finance

2.1 Planned outcomes and indicators

Outcomes	Indicators
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<p>1. Right holders have monitored budgets and tracked public resources.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Existence of an annual budget monitoring report. 2. Number of CICA member churches and other involved stakeholders who have elaborated an advocacy strategy in order to influence duty bearers. 3. Number of rights holders participating in budget monitoring at municipal level.
<p>2. Duty bearers have been challenged to demonstrate increased transparency and accountability of public financial flows.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of meetings with municipal, provincial and national governments. 2. Number of reports publicly launched at municipal, provincial and national level advocating greater transparency. 3. Number of debates in the media related to budget monitoring and transparency in the municipalities where NCA and partner work with budget monitoring.

2.2 Achievements and progress related to planned outcomes.

2.2.1 Achievements and progress reached past year

In 2012, CICA, with support of NCA, conducted social monitoring activities of local communities involving 75 activists from CICA member churches. The activists monitored 19 government projects included in the *"Integrated Municipal Program for Combating Poverty and Rural Development"* in the municipalities of Cela, Cubal and Negage, in the provinces of Kwanza Sul, Benguela and Uíge.

The evidence collected during this process is part of a report that will be widely distributed to the members of different government agencies, the media, and the general public in 2013, and may be used as elements of advocacy by different stakeholders.

The achievements of the social monitoring program represent a major breakthrough in the projects that CICA has developed with support of NCA. Especially when taking into account that this initiative nearly ended in 2011 due to the difficulties of gaining access to data and information, as well as the partner's lack of experience in dealing with the process.

In addition to the monitoring of the local municipality budgets, CICA also carried out Participative Poverty Assessments (PPA) in 2012, as a follow-up of the PPAs carried out in 2011. PPAs were conducted in 7 new villages in the municipalities of Cela, Cubal and Negage. The activists conducted 313 interviews with the local population, as well as organized focus of women, men and youth attended by a total of 345 people, (115 men, 115 women and 115 youth / girls and boys).

As a result of this process a report will be produced and released in 2013, just as the report from the 2011 PPAs was launched in February 2012. The report presented the findings to various stakeholders including the Angolan government, media, civil society, the UN and the international, diplomatic community.

The social budget monitoring program with CICA has been funded by Oil for Development, and 2012 was the final year in the first three year pilot phase. NCA managed to secure a new three year funding agreement with OfU for 2013 – 2015. We expect even better results during this second phase of the program such as better quality reports, as the partner has grown much more familiar with the methodologies applied.

In November, CICA organized a conference on “Economic Justice and Social Monitoring” that counted around 90 participants from different institutions and stakeholders in Angola. The conference was also attended by participants from Mozambique and Norway, and had contributions from both the Auditor General’s office, the Ministry of Finance and the Catholic Justice and Peace group from the dioceses of Huíla province . The main objective of the conference was to share experiences in the area of social monitoring of government expenditure. It also provided CICA with an excellent opportunity for promoting and exposing their social monitoring work to a wider audience including both the authorities as well as society at large. The conference was well covered by the media.

2.2.2 Analysis and comments of achievements

Domestically and internationally, Angola is known as a country rich in natural resources, but with a serious problem of revenue distribution resulting in poverty and social inequality.

To deal with the problem of poverty in rural areas, the Angolan government launched the “*Integrated Municipal Program for Combating Poverty and Rural Development*”. This comprehensive program aims to reduce the levels of extreme poverty in the country and contribute to the achievement of the global Millennium Goals.

In this context marred with problems such as corruption and the mismanagement of resources, NCA’s partner CICA made an important contribution to the efforts made by civil society in pushing for more transparency and ensuring that public expenditures meet the citizens’ needs.

For a variety of reasons, the monitoring work proved rather more difficult in 2012 compared to previous years. The tense political environment before, during and after the elections in August 2012 complicated and delayed access to information. In addition, the complexity of the available data was already making it challenging for most citizens and decision makers to find out how much money local governments received and how this money was spent.

On a positive note, the local governments demonstrated more openness with regards to the project. CICA took advantage of this and coupled with the experience from previous years, managed to engage citizens in the evaluation of government performance in local projects. We believe that this activity marks an unprecedented fact in the history of the partner and also in social monitoring programs carried out in Angola.

2.2.3 Results achieved in advocacy efforts

For the first time ever, rights holders in the municipalities of Negage, Cubal and Cela participated in defining the priorities and needs in their communities,

through the interviews and focus group discussions organized through the PPA processes and social monitoring visits undertaken by CICA, with support of NCA. From these initiatives emerged concrete results such as:

Completion of the school in Caua in the municipality of Negage after three years without progress, beginning of the construction works of the health post in the village of Cambangula in the municipality of Cubal, and completion of the school Valódia in the commune of Waco Cungo in the municipality of Cela.

In addition, the CICA municipal monitoring groups that carry out monitoring actions and social participatory poverty analyses are more consolidated. They now act much more autonomously and frequently take initiatives to dialogue and lobbying of local administrations and voice their concerns in the municipal "hearing councils" or CACS.²

In conclusion the major result of advocacy processes supported by NCA via its partners is that we have proved wrong the misperception in many circles that the poorest people are not able to understand, monitor and formulate ideas and suggestions for public policy.

2.3 Selected Output Indicators (SOI) - analysis of the numbers

The selected output indicator for this thematic area is: "Number of rights holders involved in budget monitoring and tracking of public expenditure". "

In Angola, NCA has defined rights holders into three levels:

- Tertiary rights holders are the members of the communities where the monitoring is taking place.
- Secondary rights holders are the participants in focus groups and household inquiries in the CICA social monitoring and governance program, and community activists trained in the participative citizenship program implemented by IECA and IEBA with initial support from IDASA.
- Primary right holders are the CICA municipality groups who carry out the participative poverty assessments (APP) and social monitoring.

Second and primary rights holders are counted for the purposes of the SOI.

A total of 738 rights holders were involved in budget monitoring and tracking of public expenditure in 2012, of which 368 were women and 370 were men.

Programme: Climate Change Adaptation

2.1 Planned outcomes and indicators

Outcomes	Indicators
1. Rights holders are mobilized to manage adaptation and disaster risk reduction initiatives in their own community.	1. Number of churches and partner organizations aware of climate risks. 2. Number of churches and partner organizations that implement recommendations from a risk and vulnerability assessment.
2. Rights holders have	1. Number of livelihood assets that are not affected by climate

² Conselhos de Auscultação e Consertação.

diversified and strengthened own livelihood assets.	change. 2. % of rights holders that have adopted resilient livelihoods. 3. % increase in household economies due to diversified livelihoods.
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2.2 Achievements and progress related to planned outcomes.

2.2.1 Achievements and progress reached past year

The planned activities under the thematic area of climate change adaptation were unfortunately not implemented in 2012. The VICOBA (Village Community Banks) savings and loans program was postponed to 2013. The partner and NCA program staff proved to be poorly prepared and in need of more capacity building than initially expected. A resource person from NCA Tanzania will therefore be invited to come to Angola to conduct training on the VICOBA methodology with our partners in 2013.

In the second half of 2012 NCA participated in a conference on climate change held in Pernambuco, Brazil, where experiences were shared from different initiatives on climate change adaptation that NCA are involved in or supporting in Brazil, Vietnam, Haiti, Kenya and Tanzania. The exchange of results gave a clear vision of how NCA could work with this component through its partners in Angola.

Plans were made for a pilot project that aims to help communities adapt to the impacts of climate change in 2013 with NCA Brazil partner Diakonia. A location where NCA Angola has worked with WASH projects for many years was identified as a potential pilot area. The basis and inspiration for the pilot will be the NCA project in Tanzania (Vicoba) and the experiences of Diakonia in Brazil working on agriculture issues of sustainability and resistance to drought.

A resource person from Diakonia will visit Angola in 2013 in order to introduce the component of sustainable agriculture and resistance to drought to NCA and our partners. The main aim of the pilot will be to enable partners and communities do deal with the phenomenon of climate change in the Angolan context.

2.2.2 Analysis and comments of achievements

For the past couple of years, Angola has experienced some severe weather extremes. Drought on the one hand, intense rains on the other. The drought of 2010 and 2011 coupled with the heavy rains in 2012 threw thousands of rural families into food insecurity.

Rural families saw their food security and livelihoods facing serious problems. This in combination rising food prices has increased the number of people facing malnutrition.

Climate change is already affecting the communities and places where NCA's partners work and the awareness of this fact and its impacts on livelihoods in rural areas demonstrate that there is a need for greater coordination between the various sectors – government, companies and communities - to find answers to the challenges.

NCA recognizes that although all our partners in Angola lists climate change as a priority, there is still a significant lack of knowledge and capacity in this area within partners' staff as well as NCA's own staff members. We therefore invested in exchange visits and learning during 2012, to prepare for interventions in 2013.

2.2.3 Results achieved in advocacy efforts

The severe drought that Angola has experienced over the past two years led to a very difficult situation for vulnerable families and communities, who as a majority are subsistence farmers without any monetary or food reserves to aid them overcome the crisis. For a number of reasons, these families and communities did not receive adequate assistance from the government, civil society or the international community. As a response to the situation, NCA commissioned a small research on the situation in July and August, and shared the results widely with the United Nations, European Union and other donors in the diplomatic community as well as non-governmental organizations. The document provided the stakeholders with information from the provinces of Huambo, Huila, Malanje and Benguela. By actively disseminating the report, NCA managed to draw the attention of the government and outline actions for a response to the problem³.

In November, NCA also mobilized the ACT Angola Forum to organize a conference on the climate change and the effects of the drought on vulnerable families and communities. The Forum invited representatives from 4 rural communities in the provinces of Benguela, Huila and Huambo where the impact of the drought was particularly bad. The representatives gave moving testimonies at the conference, and brought the reality of the situation much closer to the urban population in the capital. The conference was attended by members of the Parliament, civil society and the international community, and featured on a radio program dedicated to make peoples voice heard, talking about the situation in the communities in which they live.

2.3 Selected Output Indicators (SOI) - Analysis of the numbers

The selected output indicator for this thematic area is: "Number of rights holders whose vulnerability is reduced by climate adaptation measures".

Rights holders are in this case defined as persons who live in communities where NCA and partner implement climate change adaptation measures, including both local leaders and those directly benefitting from the program.

"Vulnerability" is defined in relation to livelihood and the consequences caused by drought, heavy rain and floods. When vulnerability is reduced, livelihood is better preserved compared to if the measures were not implemented.

Climate change adaptation is a new program area for NCA in this strategic period, and ambitions and objectives are therefore quite modest and SOI will only be collected from 2013 onwards.

Programme: Social Mitigation of HIV and AIDS

³ The government mobilized some food and non-food aid to communities identified as vulnerable in the report. The UN approached NCA and the ACT Angola Forum in order to reflect on new approaches that would help unblock the situation with the authorities. NCA and ACT recommended a stronger focus on interventions on local level, aimed at provincial and municipal administrations.

2.1 Planned outcomes and indicators

Outcomes	Indicators
1. Right holders are mobilized to claim equal rights for PLWH at local and national level.	1. Number of cases presented to duty bearers regarding equal rights for PLWHA (legal, economic and spiritual rights). 2. Number of religious leaders who advocate against stigma and discrimination against PLWHA in their communities.
2. Right holders benefit from legal, social, physical and economic assistance with a special focus on women and children.	1. Number of rights holders receiving spiritual support. 2. Coverage of care and support in project area.

2.2 Achievements and progress related to planned outcomes.

2.2.1 Achievements and progress reached past year

NCA's partner UCF, a member of YWCA, was awarded the International Diana Award for 2012. UCF received this award as a recognition of a program funded originally by ACT partner Christian Aid, called "Girls Building Bridges". This is the first time that young people in Angola receive the award, created in memory of Princess Diana to honor children and youth around the world who have contributed positively to the development of their communities.

The Girls Building Bridges initiative aims at improving HIV awareness among young women in their communities, and challenging the rife stigma and discrimination associated with the virus. In 2012, around sixty girls participated in a series of educational, vocational and recreational activities. As part of the "Girls Building Bridges" programme the girls start by developing "competencies for life" so that instead of just saying 'no to HIV', they say 'yes' to themselves. They then perform interactive role plays in schools and churches and encourage debate on hot topics such as gender equality, domestic violence and reproductive health in the context of HIV/AIDS. They also help to inform young women about their fundamental rights and encourage them to take ownership of their relationships.

Over the past years, around 70% of the girls in the group have gone on to become peer educators and volunteers providing post-HIV test counselling at local health centres. They also offer moral support to many girls and women in the community who experience domestic violence. All girls from the first courses - now young women - are currently doing university courses and working, breaking the cycle of poverty and exclusion in their lives.

In addition to the above, NCA's partners UCF, CICA and IEBA implemented various activities of information, communication and education with emphasis on awareness-raising campaigns for voluntary testing. UCF offered awareness and information services to 2.038 persons (1.542 women, 385 men and 111 children) at the health centre "Progresso" in Cazenga municipality in Luanda. As a result, 976 people agreed to voluntarily testing, including 740 women, 96 men and 140 children.

With the objective of promoting activism and give greater visibility to the HIV/AIDS epidemic within the churches, IEBA, with support of NCA, trained 20

activists in the municipality of Maquela do Zombo and 20 pastors in the municipality of Damba, both in Uige province. In addition, IEBA broadcast regular radio programmes on HIV and AIDS throughout the year through the municipal radio station in Maquela do Zombo. IEBA also printed and adapted a variety of educational material in one of the main national languages, Kigongo, primarily used in the northern part of Angola bordering the DRC where prevalence is far higher than the average national level.

In the area of care and support, UCF provided 46 people living with the HIV virus (32 women, 4 men and 10 children) with psychological, social and material support, through a project funded by NCA. This support includes distribution of material such as soap, toothbrushes and information folders, as well as some basic food products like oil, rice, milk and salt. Home visits and follow-up in the hospitals are also part of the project.

In Maquela do Zombo, IEBA supported 7 persons (5 women and 2 men) living with HIV with baskets containing basic food products, soap, clothes and bibles.

In 2012, NCA facilitated an internal reflection process within its main partners working with HIV and AIDS with the support of an external consultant. The process resulted in a new vision of work for 2013. There will be more focus on providing care and support to those affected by HIV and AIDS, with a view to minimize the negative impact of HIV and AIDS on the lives of infected people and their close relatives.

2.2.2 Analysis and comments of achievements

The main goals outlined by the Angolan authorities in relation to the problem of HIV and AIDS are to reduce the sexual transmission of HIV, eliminate new infection of children, provide treatment for all people living with HIV/AIDS and end the stigma and discrimination towards them.⁴ To tackle this challenge it is important to bridge the gap between the resources dedicated to the health and education sector in the state budget and the real needs of the sector.

According to data from the national office for the fight against AIDS (INLS) there are about 203.906 adults estimated infected by HIV in Angola. 21.411 new positive cases have been diagnosed in 2012, of which 15.864 are adults, 1.351 children and 4.196 pregnant women. 16.973 are monitored and approximately 5.950 are receiving treatment.

Despite the increase in the number of patients in treatment due to the revision of the protocol that have given people the possibility of starting therapy earlier, many people still continue to seek health services and diagnosis late, which seriously undermines the effectiveness in care and treatment of those infected. The lack of adequate government funds for projects focussing on prevention has motivated and mobilized various groups in civil society to take action in favour of people living with HIV and AIDS and support initiatives aimed at prevention.

The progress made by NCA partners to date has been possible thanks to the commitment of these to answer the challenges that HIV and AIDS represent for society in general and to the church in particular these days.

⁴ From the National Plan to Fight HIV and AIDS: <http://sida.gov.ao/>

Taking into account the relevant experience of the health services of IEBA and the ability of interaction of CICA members Churches with communities, we believe that there are opportunities for working with religious leaders to encourage people to perform the HIV test.

2.2.3 Results achieved in advocacy efforts

Similar to what was reported under the thematic area of Gender Based Violence, no major advocacy efforts were undertaken by partners towards external duty bearers and authorities in the area of HIV and AIDS. However, important efforts in lobbying internally within churches and partner organizations were made throughout the year. The internal reflection processes that were facilitated by NCA within the partners UCF, IEBA and in particular CICA, were crucial in influencing positively how religious leaders relate to issues of HIV and AIDS. The process also pointed out the clear links between HIV and AIDS and the vulnerability of women. As a concrete result, the partners' plans for 2013 focus on strengthening the capacities of the victims of gender based violence which is often linked to stigma and discrimination from living with HIV and AIDS so that they can safeguard their own interests and receive spiritual, psychological, moral and legal support from their religious leaders.

2.3 Selected Output Indicators (SOI) - analysis of the numbers

The selected output indicator for this thematic area is: "Number of rights holders affected by HIV and AIDS who receive care and support through NCA and partners' program".

Right holders are defined as persons who receive support.

"Affected by HIV and AIDS" means those infected by HIV and those taking care of or who are living with HIV infected persons, as orphans, spouses and other family members.

"Care and support" is defined as psychosocial or moral support, medical support (access to ARV etc.), economic support (food, money etc.) and legal support.

We have chosen not to count those who receive counseling before and after tests, unless they continue to benefit from continuous care, counselling and support.

Programme: Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

2.1 Planned outcomes and indicators

Outcomes	Indicators
1. Rights holders' organizations have the capacity for management of sustainable community water supply and sanitation services.	1. % of well functioning organizations complying with established sustainability criteria at project completion. 2. % of sustainable water schemes and or sanitation services five years after completion.
2. Rights holders take action to protect themselves against key public health risks related to hygiene practices.	1. % of rights holders expressing their knowledge about key public health risks and how to protect themselves. 2. % of reduction of communicable diseases as perceived by rights holders.

2.2 Achievements and progress related to planned outcomes.

2.2.1 Achievements and progress reached past year

NCA supported its partners IECA, ACM and IEA in the construction of 8 new drinking water systems⁵ in 2012. These were in the villages of Chiome, Gengo and Tenda in the municipality of Baia Farta in Benguela province, the villages of North/South Chacavela, Liolyo, Lussengue Santa Isabel, Lussengue Grande and Kiengo in the municipality of Cela in Kwanza Sul province and the villages of Yala Katumbo and Kissala in the municipality of Quibaxe in Bengo province.

These new systems gave 9.107 people access to safe drinking water, bringing the total to 15.693 people⁶ who are benefitting from an improved source of drinking water through the NCA and partners' program 2011 - 2015 that aims at contributing to the right to access to water which is seen as an indispensable condition for the achievement of other rights such as the right to health and livelihoods.

Based on previous experiences and taking into account the fact that a high percentage of water systems become inoperative after the first 5 years of operation, NCA facilitated a reflection on the sustainability of the water systems with our partners. The work-shop was attended by 23 people working with our partners from IECA, IEA and ACM. In order to consolidate and document the knowledge shared during the training sessions, a manual that will be used by the community mobilizers was developed.

To enhance and ensure sustainability of the drinking water systems, the partners trained 72 people in the communities to be part of 8 water and sanitation groups (GAS). The GAS groups are responsible for the management and maintenance of the systems, as well as for training and mobilizing the communities on issues related to hygiene and sanitation.

In 2012 NCA and partners stepped up the focus on hygiene promotion and sanitation. With a small grant from Statoil, partners were introduced to a methodology called CLTS – Community-Led Total Sanitation (or SANTOLIC in Portuguese). The activities related to CLTS were implemented in Muhaningo, Farol (including St. Lucia), Saco, Tenda, Gengo, Chiome (Benguela), Ngonga Kungo Caninda and Kiondo, Liolyo, Chacavela North/South, Lussengue Santa Isabel, Lussengue Grande and Kiengo (Kwanza Sul).

The methodology of CLTS was introduced in the above-mentioned communities which have a total of 12.778 inhabitants. Key community leaders were actively involved in identifying and analysing the major challenges related to sanitation in their villages, including defecation in open spaces, lack of hand-washing routines and other practices that adversely affect the sanitation of the environment in which they live. Although it is too early to document impact, there were some real results in the form of latrines being put up by the population in the communities involved in the CLTS.

2.2.2 Analysis and comments of achievements

⁵ A drinking water system consists of a protected water source which could be a well or a bore hole, an elevated storage tank, and pipelines bringing water from the tank down to washing stations and taps in the communities. The systems are either powered by generators, solar panels or gravity.

⁶ Total number for current strategic period, 2011 – 2015.

Although the access to safe drinking water and sanitation is a human right and a vital necessity for the dignity and health of all people in Angola, according to the IBEP⁷ only 42% of the general population and 23% of the rural population have access to safe drinking water. The number for access to adequate sanitation is 60% at national level, and 31% in rural areas.

To cope with this situation, the Government launched the “Water for All” program which is scheduled to run up to 2015 at an estimated cost of 4 billion USD. The main goal of the program is the expansion and rehabilitation of water and sanitation infrastructures, covering 60% of the population before 2015.

According to an assessment by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) regarding the water and sanitation sector in Angola, the infrastructural development activity is so prolific that there are virtually daily ads in the media of new water and sanitation projects being developed and implemented. In 2012 alone, the Chinese SinoHydro and Brazil's Odebrecht received contracts worth 200 million USD for projects in the provinces of Malange and Kwanza-Sul.

Despite the joint investments made last year by NGOs, public and private sector entities, there are still many challenges. Some projects are suffering from weak implementation capacity, others from the risk of becoming inoperable due to lack of spare parts and regular maintenance, lack of involvement of the beneficiaries and other measures to ensure their sustainability.

One of the main keys to NCA and partners’ success in the field of water and sanitation is that where the government does not invest in strategies to deal with the problem of sustainability, NCA and partners do. Aspects such as the following are taken into account: availability of water as a natural resource itself, the economic and social condition of the communities benefitting from the water systems, the financial viability of systems and other fundamental aspects that ensure the provision of a sustainable environmental, economic and social perspective.

Despite significant efforts made by the partners of the NCA in areas where the water systems have been built, we still find that very often the number of people using improved sanitation facilities is low. Also, in cases where there are improvements of conditions for personal hygiene, such routines and conditions are easily reversed if for some reason there is a shortage of water supply.

2.2.3 Results achieved in advocacy efforts

In the water, sanitation and hygiene programs the constitution of water committees or GAS groups has helped communities to become empowered and to organise and mobilise. In many cases they have been able to define what basic needs are and negotiate their priorities with external actors such as the local authorities and large land-owners.

In general, the water and sanitation groups and the teams involved in the processes of participatory poverty analysis and social monitoring saw a decrease in the distance that separates them from politicians and in many cases they were able to see that the concerns they raised were addressed.

⁷ Inquérito Integrado Sobre o Bem Estar da População (IBEP) 2008 – 2009.

2.3 Selected Output Indicators (SOI) - analysis of the numbers

The selected output indicator for this thematic area is: "Number of rights holders who have access to a basic water supply service level".

Rights holders are all those living in communities where there is a working water supply service due to interventions offered by NCA partners.

NCA and partner follow the SPHERE standards⁸ in order to determine what is considered a minimum supply service level.

2.4 Specific Emergency Response (if applicable):

The ACT Forum in Angola received Rapid Response Funding (RRF) in order to intervene on behalf of returned refugees from the DRC to the northern province of Uíge in July and August 2012.

2.4.1 Needs addressed

Although the return was coordinated by the Angolan authorities and the UN, it coincided with the extended drought and food shortage crisis in the country and both the returnees and the receiving communities received insufficient support from the official program. Access to clean water was also identified as a serious problem in most of the communities where the returnees were to be settled.

2.4.2 Response provided

Basic food and non food items such as salt, rice, cooking oil, dried fish, buckets and soap were distributed to beneficiaries in 19 different communities. NCA participated in the training of 20 community activists from national ACT Forum member IERA, and provided intensive training in emergency water treatment. Each community activist was equipped with simple water purification training kits as well as water treatment products before being dispatched to the different communities.

NCA also re-visited two old drinking water systems finalised in Bembe municipality in 2009, and assisted the communities in finding solutions to minor operational problems so that the systems once again were running as planned.

2.4.3 Right holders

A total of 1.454 beneficiaries, or 200 families, were assisted. Vulnerable households led by single parents and women were given priority.

2.4.4 Location

Assistance was provided to vulnerable families in 19 communities in the municipalities of Damba, Songo and Bembe in Uíge province, Angola.

2.4.5 Results achieved

- Family's lives were saved, and nutrition guaranteed for at least three months.

- Psychological stability was enhanced for a period of time because most of the returnees did not have any other source of revenues. (The rice which was distributed would last to the end of October if well managed).

⁸ Minimum 15 litres per person per day, maximum distance from household to water point is 500 metres, and queuing-time at water source is no more than 30 minutes. www.spherehandbook.org

- Water-borne diseases such as cholera and diarrhea were reduced and even avoided in most areas.
- Long-term awareness amongst the villagers and members of IERA of basic community development principles was enhanced through the training of the community development agents.
- ACT Forum Angola enhanced its visibility and confirmed themselves as a relevant and reliable actor for the provincial and municipal governments in the province of Uíge as well as in the eyes of other international NGOs working in the country.

3 Change Story

Title of story: "Giving a voice to rural populations in central Angola".

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