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ANGOLA



UNITED NATIONS COMMON COUNTRY ANALYSIS 2022

Angola



United Nations Common Country Analysis: Angola

Data and analysis as of December 2022

In preparation of the formulation
of the UNSDCF 2023 – 2027 of Angola.

Prepared by the UN Country Team of Angola.

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ACRONYMS

ACLED	Armed Conflict Location & Event Data
AEBI	Areas of Ecological or Biological Importance
AfDB	African Development Bank
AFOLU	Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use
AFPs	Agencies, Funds and Programmes
AU	African Union
AUDA	African Union Development Agency
AWLN	African Women Leaders Network
BNA	National Bank of Angola
BODIVA	Bolsa de Dívida e Valores
CCA	Common Country Analysis
CDP	Committee for Development Policy
CEDAW	Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CEIC	Centro de Estudos e Investigação Científica
CESCR	Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
CMC	Comissão do Mercado de Capitais
COVID-19	Corona Virus Disease
CPLP	Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
DALY	Disability-Adjusted Life Years
DNSP	Direcção Nacional de Saúde Pública
DSSI	Debt Service Suspension Initiative
ECCAS	Economic Community of Central African States
ESAR	Eastern and Southern Africa region
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FAPED	Federação Angolana de Pessoas com Deficiências
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
FFH	Fundo de Fomento Habitacional
FFPI	Food Price Index
GoA	Government of Angola
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GHG	Greenhouse Gas(es)
GII	Gender Inequality Index
GMST	Global
GNI	Gross National Income
HDI	Human Development Index
HDP	Humanitarian-Development-Peace
HIV-AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus-Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
HRBA	Human Rights-Based Approach
HRC	Human Rights Council
IATF	Inter-Agency Task Force
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
ICGLR	International Conference on the Great Lakes Region
IDREA	Survey of Expenditure and Income and Employment in Angola
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IIMS	Survey of Multiple Indicators and Health
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMF	International Monetary Fund
INE	National Institute of Statistics
INEFOP	Instituto Nacional de Emprego e Formação Profissional
INFF	Integrated National Financing Frameworks
INSS	National Institute of Social Security
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IPC	Integrated Food Security Phase Classification
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
iSDG Model	Integrated Sustainable Development Goal Model
Kz	Angolan Kwanza (Local currency)
LCU	Local Currency Unit
LDC	Least Developed Country
LGBTIQ+	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer and Others
LNOB	Leave No One Behind

ACRONYMS

MASFAMU	Ministry of Social Action Family and Promotion of Women
MCTA	Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Environment
MED	Ministry of Education
MEP	Ministry of Economy and Planning
MFI	Monetary Financial Institution
MINAGRIP	Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
MINAMB	Ministry of the Environment
MINEA	Ministry of Energy and Water
MINFIN	Ministry of Finance
MININT	Ministry of Interior
MINOTH	Ministry of Spatial Planning and Housing
MINSA	Ministry of Health
MINTTICS	Ministry of Telecommunications, Information Technology and Media
MJDH	Ministry of Justice and Human Rights
MSME	Micro, Small, and Medium-sized Enterprises
NDP	National Development Plan
NE	New Partnership for Africa's Development
NMRF	National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up
OACPS	Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States
ODA	Official Development Assistance
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OGE	Government Budget
OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
PCI	Productive Capabilities Index
PLHIV	People Living with HIV
PNUH	Programa Nacional de Urbanização e Habitação
PPP	Purchasing Power Parity
PREI	Programa de Reconversão da Economia Informal
PRODESI	Program to Support Production, Export Diversification and Import Substitution
Qn and q/q	Quarter and Quarter to quarter
RCO	Resident Coordinator Office
RISE	Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy
SADC	Southern Africa Development Community
SCI	Service Coverage Index
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SME	National Migration Services
SRH	Sexual and Reproductive Health
UHC	Universal Health Coverage
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDRR	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
UNEP	United Nations Environment Program
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlement Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNHRC	United Nations Human Rights Committee
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
VAT	Value-Added Tax
VNR	Voluntary National Review
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WB	World Bank
WDI	World Development Indicators (WB)
WEF	World Economic Forum
WFP	World Food Program
WHO	World Health Organization
y/y	Year to Year

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Executive Summary





Angola has remained relatively peaceful since the civil war from 1975 to 2002. As Angola advances on its democratic path and continues to be an example of stability in Africa, challenges remain related to governance and SDG16 on peace, justice and strong institutions. Following a peaceful presidential transition in 2017, Angola embarked on a path of political reforms aimed at curbing corruption and promoting good governance.

On 24 August 2022, Angola held legislative elections, marking the country's fifth electoral contest since independence in 1975. The re-election of incumbent President João Gonçalves Lourenço for a second five-year term, and the few changes in his cabinet, point toward continuity down the path towards reforms. The ruling party obtained a simple majority in Congress, down from the two-thirds majority in the previous terms, and the opposition almost doubled their seats. The elections marked an important step towards the consolidation of the country's democracy, and its position as an example of peace and stability in the region. At the same time, the election results show that the Angolan political fabric remains polarized along party lines.

Since emerging from a five-year-long economic recession in 2021, strengthening accountability as the country advances along its democratic path stands as a fundamental precondition to turn **the optimistic macroeconomic outlook for next years as an important opportunity to accelerate reforms towards the sustainable and inclusive socio-economic transformation of the country**, by investing more resources in human development and capabilities and in building resilience to climate change and external shocks.

1. The favorable medium-term economic outlook and the ongoing NDP design process present an important opportunity to accelerate needed institutional and socio-economic reforms in Angola in the direction of SDGs' achievement.

Throughout 2022, **Angola continued fiscal consolidation, with the debt-to-GDP ratio on a downward trajectory**; efforts by the **monetary authorities also managed to tackle general and food inflation so far**, helped by the appreciating currency exchange rate until May 2022. The projected real GDP growth rate of around 3.2 % (y/y) in the first semester of 2022 was driven by the strong recovery of the oil sector and lingers still below or in line with the demographic growth rate. This points at the **need for accelerated and inclusive economic growth, coupled with effective family planning**, in order to reap the demographic dividend in the future. Nonetheless, the **unmet need for family planning remains very high at 43%** among adolescent girls aged 15-19.

The **increasing fiscal space from oil revenues could allow Angola to keep macroeconomic prudence, while at the same time accelerating investments in key social sectors.** In this direction, the draft **National Budget**

2. The economic growth prospects are not yet translating into a significant reduction of unemployment and reversal of poverty and inequality in Angola while the high unmet need for family planning and still limited economic diversification impact on the demographic dividend.

(OGE) for 2023 could mark a turning point, boosting the overall social and economic envelopes from 19% and 7.5% to almost 24% and 10% of the total budget respectively between 2022 and 2023. However, **allocations still remain below international commitments¹** and more resources could be mobilized from the reform of price subsidies, which recent evidence showed to be highly regressive, and **contributing to one of the highest inequality indexes in the world** (GINI index was 51.3% in 2018).

Overall, so far **annual expenditures in the social sectors have proved insufficient to put Angola on track to reach the full target for most of the Sustainable Development Goals**. Simulations from the iSDG model exercise project that at current levels of investment, only 25% of SDGs goals would be achieved by 2030. Additional investments of up to 5% of GDP in human capital, productive activities, infrastructure (the new NDP priorities), and especially environment protection, could lift this achievement up to almost 40%.

The **economic stabilization and growth prospects remain still vulnerable to the whims of oil prices fluctuations**, thus making it even more imperative for Angola to drive that socio-economic transformation prioritized by the National Development Plan (NDP 2023-2027) guidelines² as “**sustainable, inclusive and private sector-led economic diversification**”. This is made more urgent by the global decarbonization agenda and by the depletion and maturity of oil fields.

However, **the results of current diversification efforts are still mixed and not delineating a stable growth path**. Crucial non-oil sectors champions such as agriculture and fisheries seem to have lost some momentum compared to 2021. **The manufacturing contribution to GDP remains below 7%** (half of Nigeria's), not driving the expected structural economic transformation at these GDP per capita levels.

Moreover, whereas economic growth has helped in **turning around the unemployment trends in Angola, informality remains widespread especially among women** (almost 90% compared to 70% of men) and a concerning accelerating trend of youth exiting the labor force should be monitored.³

3. The effects of climate change and the limited and unequal access to social services aggravate hunger, poverty and inequality especially between rural and urban areas.

The inclusive and sustainable development ambitions of Angola remain also highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Agriculture, which employs large part of the population, and is largely rain-fed, is the most vulnerable sector to climate change. Current projected trends (IPCC) indicate decreases in annual rainfall in the north and south of Angola, and an increase on or along the central coast. In the south, although precipitation episodes are expected to decrease, they will become more intense, making flooding more likely. ⁴ **Among climate change disasters, floods and coastal erosion are of particular concern in Angola as 50% of Angolan families and individuals live in coastal areas.**

In 2022, 6.8 million Angolans suffered from chronic food hunger, while 1.6 million were classified as suffering from acute hunger, measured by indicators such as household food consumption, livelihood behaviors, child nutritional status mortality, access to clean drinking water, and other contextual factors. The latest available data indicates that while the prevalence

¹ Incheon Declaration and Framework for Action of 2015 (15% to 20% of total budget on education) and Abuja Declaration in 2001 (15% of total budget on health).

² Government of Angola, 2022a.

³ INE, 2022a.

⁴ IPCC, 2022.

of undernourishment has decreased considerably in the last two decades (from 52.2% in 2004-2006 to 20.8% in 2019-2021), the prevalence of severe food insecurity grew from 21% in 2014-2016 to 30.4% in 2019-2021.⁵

Despite some improvements, access to primary health care remains limited and constrained by the socioeconomic determinants of health, which affects particularly the key and vulnerable population. Among others, **malaria continues to be the major cause of mortality in Angola**, being one of the most-affected countries in the world.

In order for the socio-economic transformation to happen, empowering the people of Angola to lead the change should be at the center of reforms, with a special attention to **reducing the still significant rural-urban, gender and age gaps**, which contribute to the high inequality in the country.

The latest Human Development Report clearly reveals the **profound impact of cross-cutting inequality in Angola on its Human Development Index (HDI)**, which has been stagnating at around 0.58 since the start of the economic recession in 2016. When the HDI value of Angola is discounted for inequality, it falls from 0.586 to 0.407, a loss of 30.5%. The richest 1% of the population captured 26% of national income whereas the poorest 10% only 1.3% of it in 2018/2019.

The poverty rate could remain largely unchanged in the coming years above 30 % if envisaged structural reforms based on human development and human rights are not undertaken with impetus. In 2015-2016, at least one out of two Angolans lived in multidimensional poverty, affecting particularly children, women and people living in rural areas. **Angola has ratified the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights** with the commitment to address the persistent challenges of poverty and inequality.

Women are mostly excluded from the productive sectors of the economy, hampering their fundamental contribution to driving the economic transformation of the country. Overall, Angola has a Gender Inequality Index value of 0.537, ranking it 136 out of 170 countries – due to a high maternal mortality ratio and adolescent birth rate, as well as a low percentage of the female population with at least some secondary education and a lower female labor force participation in comparison to males.

Gender inequality already starts from primary school, gradually widening to secondary and tertiary education and especially affecting rural areas, where basic school infrastructure and cultural norms represent significant obstacles to girls' education. The **gender education gap then translates into lower opportunities for women to enter into the formal job market** and especially the more productive sectors of the economy, such as industry, leaving most of them in the informal sector. The final result is a wide gender wage gap of more than 50%, and reduced access to social protection for women.

Among the positive developments, **women's political participation has increased in governmental ranks as the ruling party has made this one of their main priorities ahead of the elections.** The country elected a woman vice-president and president of the National Assembly for the first time. More women are also represented in the executive branch. These developments provide an opportunity for implementing reforms to reduce the gender gap and promote women's socio-economic empowerment.

4. The gender education gap affects women's participation in the socio-economic structural transformation of the country but could be reduced in the future by wider women political participation promoting inclusive reforms.

⁵ FAO, 2022b.

5. The commitments on improving political rights, governance and human rights in the country need to come along with accelerated action and follow-up.

As a significant driver of inequality which impedes the country socio-economic transformation, the **fight against corruption is still an important item in the Government's agenda**, with efforts being directed at preventing capital outflows from the country (and in the recovery of funds abroad), strengthening national institutions and international collaboration in this area. USD 15 billion in assets and funds have been seized, of which USD 6.8 billion were apprehended inside Angola.⁶

Despite these advances, bottlenecks persist. To date, Angola does not have an integrated strategy or national prevention policy to combat corruption and the "High Authority Against Corruption", created formally in 1996 was never de facto instituted. Actions have been taken at sectoral level and have lacked significant coordination with other relevant organs. Furthermore, Angola would need to review legislation related to asset recovery, administration of confiscated assets, effective beneficiaries and politically exposed persons (PEP).⁷

Angola needs to continue improving in areas regarding **political rights and civil liberties. Access to justice is still highly problematic.** The right to freedom of assembly is guaranteed by article 47 of the 2010 Angolan Constitution and Article 21 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, ratified by Angola. The overall respect of this right appears to have improved modestly in the last few years.⁸ The Freedom House index for people's access to political rights and civil liberties classifies Angola as "not free"⁹ while in 2019 the Human Rights Committee expressed various concerns including in respect of the alleged use of excessive force.¹⁰

Putting its people at the center of change, in line with Agenda 2030's central pledge to Leave No One Behind (LNOB), means that any form of discrimination against vulnerable groups should also be removed, and that **full empowerment and enjoyment of fundamental human rights should be guaranteed for everyone including marginalized persons and groups**, unleashing their full potential to contribute to the socio-economic transformation of Angola. In spite of some progress such as reviewing the Penal Code to decriminalize same sex relationships,¹¹ **LGBTIQ+ persons still suffer serious human rights violations, gender-based violence is still the norm, and the state does not offer sufficient protection to people with disabilities, indigenous people, migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.** Leave no one behind is not only in line with several Human Rights Treaties and Conventions Angola ratified, but it is also necessary and conducive to the socio-economic transformation based on human capital, as envisaged in the new NDP.

6. The favorable medium-term economic outlook provides the UN system with a great opportunity to promote and support needed institutional and socio-economic reforms for the sustainable and inclusive socio-economic transformation of Angola based on human development and human rights through the new UNSDCF.

Angola is at a crossroads between continuing business as usual, delaying or slowing down some planned fundamental reforms, thus coping with potential increasing social discontent from rising unemployment, and poverty, or rather impressing an acceleration to the implementation of some of these reforms, consolidating the social contract with its people,¹² rooted in human rights, while also addressing the major structural challenges of the country, including the need to strengthen accountability, democratic space, and the clamp down on corruption, and to invest more in its human capital to achieve economic diversification.

⁶ Government of Angola, 2022 b.

⁷ UNODC, 2022.

⁸ Mo Ibrahim Foundation, 2020.

⁹ Freedom House, 2022.

¹⁰ HRC, 2019a paras 45-46.

¹¹ CEDAW, 2019.

¹² United Nations, 2021.



The new NDP and the decentralization process are opportunities to orient the national budget and priorities in order to meet citizen demands, especially those of young people who expected more accountability, social services and better employment opportunities over the past years. In a still vulnerable context with limited non-oil FDI, **leveraging the currently expanding fiscal space**, while **fostering strategic partnerships with the private sector** in Angola and through innovative SDG financing will be key for the envisaged socio-economic transformation of Angola. The graduation process from LDC can also support more effective use of **international support measures** in the future. The **significant relative increase of the socio-economic development envelope in the OGE 2023 is a positive signal in the right direction.**

In this favorable scenario, the **role of the UN development system becomes even more relevant** in encouraging the implementation of strategic reforms based on human development and capabilities, leveraging best practices and technical assistance to support the country along the challenging path towards the implementation and achievement of the SDGs. ●

Introduction

In 2023 the UN system in Angola will embark on developing its next United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2024-2027, in conjunction with the Government of Angola (GoA) designing the next National Development Plan (NDP) for the same period.

Together with the evaluation of current UNSDCF 2020-2023, this Common Country Analysis (CCA) will feed in the upcoming UNSDCF by providing solid evidence base foundations for UN programming in Angola. The CCA constitutes the UN's independent and impartial assessment of the Angola country context.

The CCA is aligned with the strategic development priorities of the draft guidelines for the National Development Plan of Angola 2023-2027, which are divided into seven *eixos* (axes) as follows:¹³

- I. To consolidate peace and the democratic rule of law, proceed with reforms encompassing the state, the justice system, public administration, social communication, freedom of expression, and civil society;**
- II. Promote the balanced and harmonious development of the territory;**
- III. Promote the development of human capital, expanding access to health services, to knowledge, technical and scientific skills, promote culture and stimulate entrepreneurship and innovation;**
- IV. Reduce social inequality, eradicate hunger and extreme poverty, promote gender equality and address multidimensional and cross-cutting challenges to increasing quality of life across society;**

V. Modernize national infrastructures making them more effective, and conserve the environment;

VI. Ensure sustainable and inclusive economic diversification, led by the private sector, and

VII. Ensure the defense of national sovereignty, integrity and security, and promote the image of Angola in the regional and international context.

Methodology and limitations

The purpose of this CCA is to provide an overall integrated, and forward-looking analysis of selected recent trends and emerging challenges, opportunities and risks that could most impact on the progress towards Agenda 2030 in Angola, and that can inform adjustments in the UNSDCF joint work plan while supporting the goals of the National Development Plan. The linkages to the African Union (AU) 2063 Agenda and to the priorities of the SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP 2020-2030) are also taken into consideration.

The finalization of this CCA is the result of collective consultations by the dedicated UN inter-agency task force (IATF), acting as a Steering Committee for the CCA under the overall supervision of the UNCT. The IATF comprised focal points from different AFPs, and it was coordinated by the RCO Senior Economist with the assistance of an international consultant, since mid-October 2022 until mid-December 2022. International finance institutions, including the WB, IMF and AfDB, also appointed focal points who greatly supported the finalization of this CCA. Additionally, the following four thematic groups were constituted to contribute to the technical content of the CCA:

- **Political context, governance and Human Rights**
- **Economic transformation and inequality**
- **Social development and exclusion**
- **Climate change and environment**

The objective is to keep frequent consultations in the future as part of the UN system analytical function in Angola, with selected studies and analysis feeding into next CCA updates and UNSDCF programming.

¹³ The text referring to the National Development Plan in this CCA is an unofficial translation from Portuguese to English based on the document titled *Bases Gerais para a Elaboração do Plano de Desenvolvimento Nacional 2023 - 2027*, issued by the Government of Angola on 5 October 2022. The text on *eixos estratégicos de desenvolvimento* (strategic development axes) and *domínios de intervenção* (intervention domains) does not reflect the official English language terminology that may be used when the National Development Plan and is used in this CCA for indicative purposes only.



The methodology adopted for the analysis consisted of a desk review of official government documents; technical reports, and quantitative data compiled by UN agencies and other development partners; complemented by qualitative information provided through coordination meetings with: **a)** the IATF members; **b)** the four thematic groups and **c)** civil society representatives in focus groups¹⁴.

It is important to note that this CCA built on analyses and processes involving dialogue with vulnerable and marginalized communities across the year 2022 and earlier. A good example is the “Transforming Education Summit” process which involved national consultations at different levels, including three focus groups, several interviews and a survey to 80,000 youth, leading to a National Statement of Commitment and a final report¹⁵. Therefore, selected meetings with semi-structured interviews were held with civil society representatives to cover some gaps on the following areas: a) Rights of LGBTIQ+ people in Angola; b) Climate change and environment impact on vulnerable populations; c) Implementation of main Human Rights Conventions; d) Gender equality.

¹⁴ See the list of entities participating in the CCA process and interviewed civil society representatives in Annex III.

¹⁵ UN technical support was provided by UNESCO and its Angola National Commission in coordination with UNICEF.

Disaggregated data was included whenever possible to shed light on current trends in addressing persistent inequalities and on risk factors affecting the most vulnerable sections of Angolan society based on the priorities of the National Development Plan, and on Agenda 2030’s central principle of Leave No One Behind (LNOB). The use of economic models and projections was also employed, drawing especially from the iSDG model. However, in some cases, recent data was not available to substantiate the analysis, and in others, there is a lack of sufficient information and further studies are required.

As previously pointed out in the Voluntary National Review of Angola, it was possible to identify and present information on 190 out of a total of 247 indicators of the SDGs, which represented an improvement over the number of indicators available in 2018.¹⁶ The preparation of the National Development Plan offers another opportunity to invest in data collection and adopt a human rights approach to data¹⁷ in order to develop a robust baseline for the monitoring of the Plan and of the effectiveness of government policies going forward. ●

¹⁶ INE, 2018.

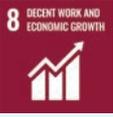
¹⁷ For more information, see *A Human-Rights-based Approach to Data* (OHCHR, 2018).

SDGs Progress Integrated Analysis



3

The 2023 – 2027 National Development Plan provides an opportunity for Angola to align its development priorities with the Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2063¹⁸, and continue to make progress towards the areas identified in the First Voluntary National Review of Angola¹⁹, presented at the High-Level Political Forum in July 2021. The Plan's seven axes align with the SDGs as follows:

National Development Plan Axis	Sustainable Development Goals
I. To consolidate peace and the democratic rule of law	
II. Promote the balanced and harmonious development of the territory	 
III. Promote the development of human capital	     
IV. Reduce social inequality, eradicate hunger and extreme poverty, promoting gender equality	     
V. Modernize national infrastructures and conserve the environment	    
VI. Ensure sustainable and inclusive economic diversification, led by the private sector	    
VII. Ensure the defense of national sovereignty and promote the image of Angola	

¹⁸ For detailed guidance, please consult the UNDP/AfBD/UNECA /AU-NEPAD *Guide for Integrated Planning in Africa* (Melim-McLeod, 2021).

¹⁹ Government of Angola, 2021a.

Apart from SDGs, the draft guidelines for the new NDP make clear reference to the graduation process of Angola from LDCs, which will happen automatically in February 2024. More specifically, these guidelines point at the two indexes used by the Committee for Development Policy (CDP) as graduation criteria and to monitor this process: the Human Asset Index (HAI) and Economic Vulnerability Index (EVI)²⁰. Given the implications of graduation especially on the trade relations of Angola with WTO and partners, also the Productive Capacities Index (PCI) is often integrated in the CDP monitoring reports.

These three indexes capture well what the NDP refers to as **“sustainable, inclusive and private sector-led economic diversification”** and could be strategically used by the UNSDCF to monitor also the progress of the country towards that inclusive and sustainable socio-economic transformation of the country based on human development and resilience.

In the monitoring report of February 2022, the CDP took note that despite some recent improvements in 2021, along with higher oil prices, the GNI/capita in Angola could fall below the graduation threshold on income criteria in 2023. Also, CDP took note that the country did not improve significantly in the HAI and EVI, which continue to be insufficient to grant Angola graduation beyond the income criteria²¹. Especially on EVI, CDP noted that its deterioration is mainly due to increasing share of agriculture in GDP, as well as rising number of victims of national disasters.



TABLE 1 LDC Criteria for Angola (2018-2022)²²

Year	GNI per capita	EVI	HAI
2018	4459.4	45	51.7
2019	3942.8	45.4	51.8
2020	3470.3	45.1	51.9
2021	3198.7	44.5	52
2022	2791.2	45.6	52.2

Source: CDP (2022)

In general, the graduation of Angola would not bear any significant economic impact, at least in the short-term, especially due to the reliance of its economy on oil and gas exports, which in most cases would not see tariff increases, as those products are traded on an MFN duty-free basis²³.

²⁰ A country can graduate from the LDC category by meeting two of the three criteria (income, human assets and economic and environmental vulnerability), or by having a per capita income of more than twice the income graduation threshold (at the 2021 review it is USD 2,444), at two consecutive triennial meetings of the UN CDP.

²¹ For HAI the graduation threshold has been set at 66 and above, whereas for EVI this is set at 32 and below.

²² Year refers to actual or hypothetical review years. Years of underlying data vary by indicator. E.g., data for GNI per capita in 2022 refers to the 2018-2020 average.

²³ In the case of full preference utilization, tariff costs would increase by

However, those trade facilitations would have still benefited Angola in its diversification efforts and it is therefore important for the GoA to finalize a smooth transition strategy that integrates also actions to negotiate the continuation of some strategic international support measures devised especially under the Doha Programme of Action to support graduating countries, including favorable trade conditions under WTO and on a bilateral basis. ●

more than USD 80 million, whereas taking actual preference utilization into account, tariff costs are estimated to increase by only USD 5.02 million. For more information, see *Trade impacts of LDC graduation- Insights from country-specific market access analyses* (WTO 2022).

Political context and governance

3.1

National Development Plan Intervention Domains:

✓ Axis I

(i) Consolidation of the Rule of Law and State Reform, (ii) Public Administration, (iii) Justice, (IV) Social Communication and Freedom of Expression, (v) Civil Society

Angola has remained relatively peaceful since the civil war from 1975 to 2002.

As Angola advances on its democratic path, challenges remain related to governance and SDG16 on peace, justice and strong institutions. Following a peaceful presidential transition in 2017, Angola embarked on a path of political reforms aimed at curbing corruption and promoting good governance. These efforts have remained high on the Government's agenda with mixed results.



In terms of the normative framework, one of the main developments consisted of the reform of the 2010 Constitution, which came into force in mid-August 2021.

The revision addressed 30 of the 244 articles of the Constitution, ranging from revising the functions of the Central Bank to issues related to confiscation of private property. It also included electoral matters, such as allowing for the first time voting from outside the country; noting the ineligibility of previous presidents with two terms to run for office again; and establishing the date for legislative elections in the second half of August. The reform was approved, with the abstention of opposition parties which argued in favor of a broader revision.

In recent years, respect for freedom of expression and information improved, as reflected in the scores of Angola in the World Press Freedom Index (WPFI), standing at

Overview

Angola has made progress on its path to democratic consolidation. According to the 2020 Ibrahim Index for African Governance, which measures annually the quality of governance of African countries through the compilation of statistical data, Angola has been in an upward trend since 2010, although it is ranked 43rd for African Governance out of a total of 54 countries receiving a mark of 40 out of 100. Security and Rule of Law have received the best mark (44.1), followed by human development (42.3). Participation, rights and inclusion received a 39.3 mark and foundations for economic opportunity lagging behind with 34.3 points.²⁴

FIGURE 1 Key democratic governance indicators for Angola (2020)



Source: Mo Ibrahim Foundation 2020

²⁴ Mo Ibrahim Foundation, 2020.

the 99th position in 2022 (from 125th in 2017).²⁵ However, laws passed in 2016 criminalizing defamation continue to be used as an intimidation tool for critics, including journalists and media, censorship and self-censorship are still widespread among journalists, mainly because of the fear of being prosecuted for defamation. Criminal proceedings are ongoing against the Angolan journalist arrested while covering the demonstration of 17 August 2022.²⁶

Current efforts to restructure the public sector in the direction of more efficient and effective service delivery go beyond cost-cutting and rationalization of the existing staff²⁷ but have still to yield results. Among others, the implementation of *Plano Nacional de Formação de Quadro* (National Staff Training Plan) is a key policy instrument aiming to boost capacity and competence of civil servants, together with the establishment of two training institutions in 2018²⁸. Closer attention is paid to the 'despartidarização do Estado' (removing party influence from public institutions), harmonization of salaries and to correct the bulging size of the public sector to ensure efficiency and universal access to the public services.

On the regional front, Angola has emerged as a key player in Central Africa, the Great Lakes region and beyond, with its critical role in peacemaking and promoting political and security stability and active leadership in different sub-regional organizations. This role is an important contribution to the achievement of the priorities listed in the AU's 2063 Agenda on the Future we Want and other subregional strategic frameworks, such as the ones developed by the Southern African Development Community (SADC).

2022 Election results and implications



On 24 August 2022, Angola held legislative elections, marking the country's fifth electoral contest since independence in 1975. The re-election of incumbent President João Gonçalves Lourenço for a second five-year term and very few changes in his cabinet point toward continuity in the path towards reforms. President João Lourenço, the country's third President, first came to power in 2017, succeeding former president José Eduardo dos Santos who had been in power for 38 years. The ruling party obtained a simple majority in Congress, down from the two-thirds majority in the previous terms, and the opposition almost doubled its seats. As such, the elections marked an important step towards the consolidation of the country's democracy. At the same time, election results show that the Angolan political fabric remains polarized along party lines.

²⁵ Reporters without borders, 2022.

²⁶ Angola Telegraph, 2022a. Please see also HRC 2019 a, paras 41-42.

²⁷ In 2020 the number of employees in public administration sector was estimated at 785,000 (<https://www.statista.com/outlook/co/public-sector/angola>).

²⁸ The Instituto de Formação da Administração Local (IFAL) and Escola de Administração e Políticas Públicas (ENAPP).

In his inaugural speech, President João Lourenço set the tone for his second mandate mentioning infrastructure (the construction of new airports), youth employment and training, and the environment (climate action, investments in clean energy and decreasing deforestation). The President briefly mentioned anti-corruption efforts focusing mainly on prevention. In the international front, President Lourenço expressed commitment to continuing with Angola's "dynamic diplomacy", which he views as key to the country's image and economy, referring to past and ongoing Angola-led conflict resolution efforts. These issues are all listed in the National Development Plan as priority "intervention domain".



While the ruling party has still uncontested control of the National Assembly, UNITA has also significantly strengthened its position compared to previous periods. Although the MPLA will be able to pass most legislative procedures which are taken by a simple majority, issues that require qualified majority, such as any constitutional reform, will need to go through a negotiation process with the opposition in order to pass. As the tightest electoral contest in the country's history, this could lead to a strengthened checks and balance system which could, in turn, lead to deepening and/or acceleration of reform efforts. The Luanda Integrated Plan approved in November 2022²⁹ is regarded as a response by the government to improve conditions in the capital following a significant electoral defeat of over 60% in the province.

Youth were mostly responsible for the high abstention rates during the elections (55%) and were protagonists in protests demanding free and fair elections. Angolan youth (persons between 15 and 24 years of age) have been particularly affected by five years of economic recession with unemployment rates that reached almost 60% in the third quarter of 2021 but declining since 2022, however due also to many young people exiting the labor force³⁰. As a consequence of this, the government has placed youth employment as one of its priorities.

Women's political participation

Women's political participation has increased in governmental ranks as the ruling party made it one of their main priorities ahead of the elections. The country elected a woman Vice-President for the first time, and it is also the first time a woman has been elected President of the National Assembly. In the Executive branch, out of 23 Ministers 37% are women, while out of 18 provincial governors there are 28%, showing some progress and some commitment to improve women's political participation. As for the National Assembly, most of the elected deputies (120/220) are first-time deputies, which



²⁹ Jornal de Angola, 2022a.

³⁰ For more information, please see the "Economic Transformation and Inequality" section.

marks an important renewal to the country's house of laws. Of those, 32% are women, including the youngest MP (26 years old). The Council of the Republic, composed by the Vice President of the Republic, President of the National Assembly, the Attorney General, and the leaders of the parties with seats in parliament, plus individuals nominated by the President, is composed of 23 members, of which 10 are women. All of these constitute evidence of the country's leadership push for gender equality at decision-making positions, but the process needs to be significantly expedited and trickle down to other sectors of society to achieve gender equality by 2030.

This year Angola launched its National Chapter of the African Women Leaders Network (AWLN), a movement of African women leaders, launched in 2017 with the support of the Office of the African Union Special Envoy on Women, Peace and Security, and of UN Women. The AWLN's priority areas include empowering rural women; political participation; peace and security; young women leadership; financial inclusion; and social mobilization. With this move, Angola creates more opportunities for the exchange of information between female leaders and strengthens connections with other women across generations seeking to advance the gender agenda in the region, with African Union and UN Women support.

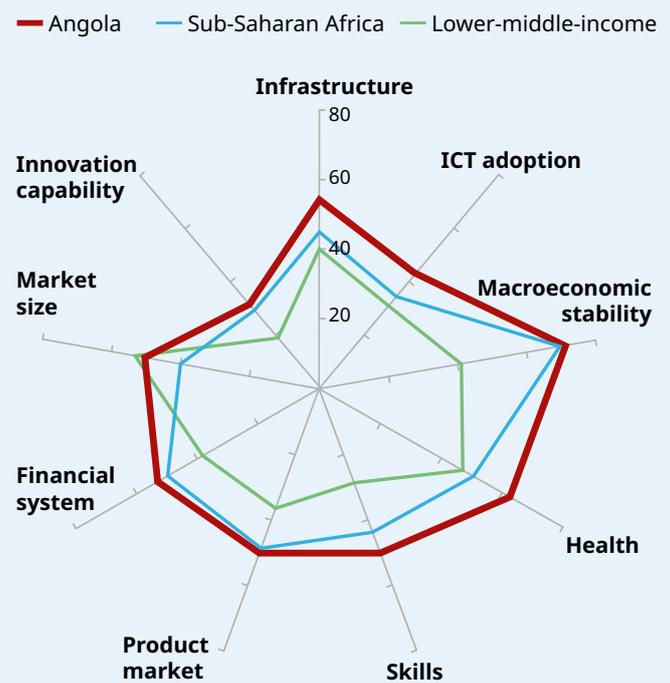
Decentralization efforts are set to intensify in President Lourenço's second term. Angola is yet to hold its first local elections, which were initially slated for 2020, but were indefinitely postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The ruling party has maintained its stance that as soon as the legislative package is approved the elections will take place, perhaps in 2024. The package consists of seven laws proposed by the Ministry of Territorial Administration, six of which have already been approved³¹. As of November 2022, the only law pending approval is the Law on the Institutionalization of Local Authorities. The President has established an Inter-ministerial Commission for the implementation of local elections, led by his Minister of State and Chief of Staff.

Economic Governance

Angola ranked poorly across nearly all sub-rankings of the Global Competitiveness Index (GCI, 2019), including enabling environment, and especially skills and innovation capability. A strong enabling environment is needed to attract private investment and boost productivity. This includes macroeconomic stability, competitiveness, governance (including the anti-corruption framework), and the regulatory environment, in addition to boosting infrastructure and human capital through skills development.

³¹ The six approved laws comprise: (1) Organic Law on the Organization and Functioning of Local Authorities, approved August 2019; (2) Administrative Protection Law Over Local Authorities, approved August 2019; (3) Organic Law on Local Elections, approved December 2019; (4) Local Finances Law, approved February 2020; (5) Law On Transfer of Attributions and Competences from The State to Local Authorities, approved March 2020; and (6) Law On the Regime and Form of Acts of The Local Authority, approved July 2020.

FIGURE 2 Global Competitiveness Index Angola (2019)



Source: WEF

Transparency International's Corruption Perception Index for 2021 classifies Angola as a 'Significant Improver', with an Index of 29/100, from a score of 15 in 2015, but still placing 136th of 180 countries.³² Illicit financial outflows from Angola were as high as 3.9% of GDP (2013-2015 average).³³ In US dollars, capital outflow was USD 4.9 billion per year during that period. From 1986 to 2015, the total capital flight was USD 63.7 billion³⁴ and illicit financial flows related to commodity trade reached USD 1.7 billion in 2018, equivalent to 1.5 per cent of the GDP. The number of the of asset recovery processes and the amounts involved have increased and Angola reported that 142 new criminal investigations were launched in 2021. There are expectations that the State could recover up to USD 80 billion in the coming years, estimated losses, however, amount to USD 150 billion.³⁵ The number of investigations for money laundering remains very low. In 2021 Angola launched 142 new money laundering investigations.³⁶

Anti-corruption is still an important item in the Government's agenda, and the country has invested significantly in strengthening efforts. In addition to fighting corruption, Angola has strived to address capital outflows from the country (and the recovery of funds abroad). Efforts to recover illicit financial flows that have poured out

³² Transparency International, 2022.

³³ Please see United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 2016.

³⁴ Ndikumana, L. and Boyce, J.K., 2018.

³⁵ Asset Recovery Inter-Agency Network for Southern Africa, 2020.

³⁶ UNODC Project PRO.REACT.

FIGURE 3 Corruption Perception Index (CPI) score changes for Angola, 2012-2021

Score changes 2012 - 2021



Source: Transparency International

of the country have translated into initiatives to strengthen national institutions and international collaboration in this area. From 2019 to September 2022, a total of about USD 15 billion in assets and funds were seized, of which USD 6.8 billion were apprehended inside Angola.³⁷ In June 2022, the Government of Angola joined the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, an important step to increase transparency efforts in the country as a first report is due by the end of 2023.

Legislative reform to curb corruption has gained momentum and is ongoing. The legislative reform in the area of anti-corruption involved the preparation of 14 bills and 19 presidential decrees. In 2019, the Government of Angola established the High-Level Technical Working Group on Anti-Corruption. The Working Group brings together relevant State institutions, under the supervision of the Office of the Chief of Staff (Casa Civil) and coordinated by the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights. The group is mandated to work on a Strategic Plan for the Prevention and Repression of Corruption. However, unless policy and institutional developments are accompanied by unrestricted media freedom, gains are likely to be limited since citizens will not have access to the information they need to hold the government accountable.

Despite these advances, bottlenecks persist. To date, Angola does not have an integrated strategy or national prevention policy to combat corruption and the “High Authority Against Corruption”, created formally in 1996, was never de facto instituted. Actions have been sectorial and lacked significant coordination with other relevant organs. Furthermore, Angola would need to review legislation related to asset recovery, administration of confiscated assets, beneficial ownership and politically exposed persons (PEP) in line with the international instruments, particularly the UN Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) and FATF Recommendations. Investigations of money laundering cases remain low.³⁸

³⁷ Government of Angola, 2022b.

³⁸ UNODC Project PRO.REACT; Government of Angola Office of the Attorney-General, 2020.

Political and civil rights

In spite of encouraging trends, political rights and civil liberties remain an area of great concern. The right to freedom of assembly is guaranteed by article 47 of the 2010 Angolan Constitution and Article 21 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), which Angola has ratified. The overall respect of this right appears to have improved modestly in the last few years.³⁹ In the past year, the country has experienced the largest wave of strikes since independence as a result of five years of economic recession. However, this is also in part a consequence of the broader political space to do so. However, the Freedom House index for people’s access to political rights and civil liberties classifies Angola as “not free”, with a combined score of 30 out of 100, including 10 points for political rights (out of a maximum of 40) and 20 for civil liberties (out of 60).⁴⁰ Moreover, in 2019 the Human Rights Committee (which monitors implementation of the ICCPR) expressed various concerns including in respect of the alleged use of excessive force.⁴¹ Since 2020, there have been 165 events with registered violence by police forces throughout the country, including excessive use of force (11), mob violence (20), protests with intervention (60), violence against civilians (47) and violent demonstrations (27). Of the 165 fatalities associated with these events, 100 of them alone are linked to a demonstration against the government’s policies towards the Lunda Norte province in January 2021, which turned violent with police and armed forces opening fire against the protestors. Since then, police forces have exercised increased restraint and the number of fatalities sharply decreased. During the same time period an additional 164 peaceful protests were registered throughout the country.

Serious challenges remain in the respect of freedom of assembly. The lack of revision of policies governing police conduct, the inadequate legal framework provided by the 1991 Law on the Right to Assemble and Demonstrate, as well as the widespread impunity enjoyed by security forces

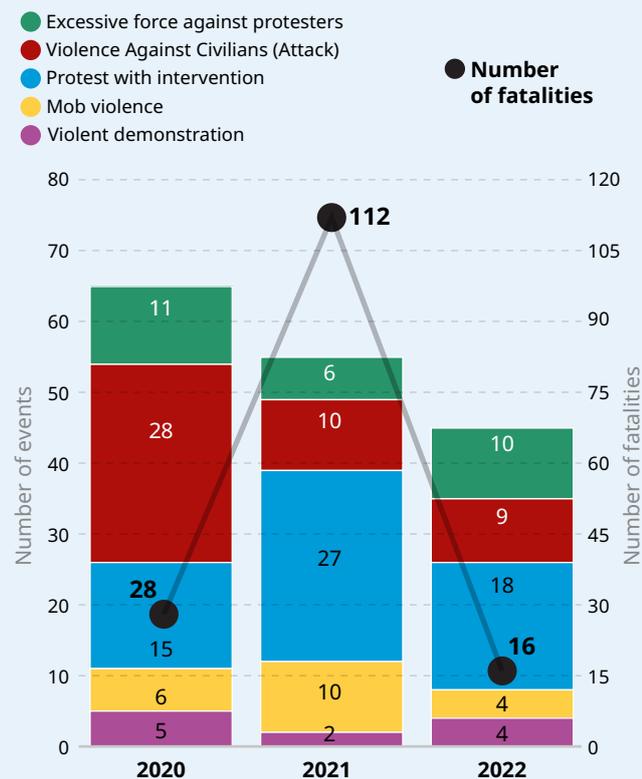
³⁹ Mo Ibrahim Foundation, 2020.

⁴⁰ Freedom House, 2022.

⁴¹ HRC, 2019a.

es are serious concerns. In 2019, the Human Rights Committee stressed that the legal framework regulating the maintenance of public order, in particular the National Police Discipline Regulations of 1996, is not in line with international standards.⁴² Angola has accepted ten UPR recommendations regarding the need to adopt increased protection for human rights defenders – including journalists – to prevent continued unreasonable restrictions; intimidation; reprisals; harassment, violence and arbitrary deprivation of liberty, and thereby safeguard the rights to freedom of expression; freedom of assembly and freedom of association.⁴³

FIGURE 4 Violent Events with Police Force Involvement (2020-2022)



Source: ACLED

Access to justice is still highly problematic. In 2019 the Human Rights Council noted that security forces are perceived to enjoy impunity for violent acts, including torture and extrajudicial killings committed against detainees, activists, and others.⁴⁴ Angolan prisons are reported to be overcrowded, unhygienic and lacking in necessities, including access to basic socio-economic rights such as the right to food, and with denunciations of sexual abuse.⁴⁵ There are reports of weak implementation of constitutional guarantees of due process. Defendants are unable to afford legal counsel, and the State largely fails to provide qualified legal

⁴² HRC, 2019a para 25.

⁴³ Angola, 2019b para 146.20-146.31.

⁴⁴ Ibid. paras 25-26; 29(b).

⁴⁵ Ibid. paras 31-32.

aid to those who need it.⁴⁶ Angola does not have a National Human Rights Institution in compliance with international human rights standards for national human rights institutions (the Paris Principles).⁴⁷ Arbitrary arrest and lengthy pretrial detention remain problematic.⁴⁸ Freedom House notes that the entire judiciary system is underfunded, under-capacitated, and inefficient, amidst a chronic lack of confidence in the legal system, especially in politically sensitive cases.⁴⁹ In spite of positive changes to the Penal Code, such as decriminalizing same sex relationships, LGBTIQ+ individuals reportedly suffer discrimination and harassment, including by the police, and are not able to have their rights guaranteed by law.⁵⁰ In addition, technical challenges such as different case numbers for the same cases hamper efficiency and increase case backlog.⁵¹

There are serious data gaps on SDG 16. Lack of data for monitoring SDG 16 indicators makes it challenging for Angola to understand and address issues of concern. Currently, data is lacking for the distribution of detainees by status, 16.1.1 Number of victims of intentional homicide by 100,000 population, 16.1.3 Proportion of population subjected to (a) physical violence, (b) psychological violence, and (c) sexual violence in the previous 12 months, 16.1.4 Proportion of population that feel safe walking along in the area they live after dark, 16.2.2 Number of victims of human trafficking per 100,000 population, 16.3.1 Proportion of victims of violence in the previous 12 months who reported their victimization to competent authorities or other officially recognized conflict resolution mechanisms, 16.3.2 Unsentenced detainees as a proportion of overall prison population 16.5.1 Proportion of persons who had at least one contact with a public official and who paid a bribe to a public official, or were asked for a bribe by those officials, during the previous 12 months. Data on the prevalence of HIV, TBD and other diseases among the prison population is severely outdated or non-existent.⁵² There is no information on SDG indicator 3.5.1 Coverage of treatment interventions (pharmacological, psychosocial and rehabilitation and aftercare services) for the prison population.

From 2019 to 2022, Angola has not submitted any data collected by international questionnaires on crime and criminal justice, and data collection for other areas is inconsistent. Data collection for SDG 16 is a priority to enable Angola to assess its situation and monitor policies under Axis I of the National Development Plan. Moreover, the means of implementation in SDG 16 sets the target to “16.a Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime”.

⁴⁶ Ibid. para 38(e).

⁴⁷ As per SDG 16 indicator 16.a.1. For more information see HRC, 2019 paras 9-10.

⁴⁸ Ibid. paras 35-36.

⁴⁹ Freedom House, 2022.

⁵⁰ Ibid. paras 13-14.

⁵¹ Source: Focus group interview with LGBTIQ+ organizations. November 2022. See “List of Persons Interviewed” in the Annexes.

⁵² UNODC Angola Country Profile, 2016.

TABLE 2 Data collection of international questionnaires

Data collection	2019	2020	2021	2022
ARQ				
GLOTIP				
IDS				
UN-CTS				
UN-IAFQ				

Data Collection Instrument / Questionnaire

- ARQ** Drugs (Annual Report Questionnaire)
- GLOTIP** Questionnaire for the Global Report on Trafficking in Persons
- IDS** Drugs (Individual Drug Seizures)
- UN-CTS** UN-CTS Crime and Criminal Justice (UN Crime Trends Survey)
- UN-IAFQ** UN-IAFQ Firearms (UN Illicit Arms Flows Questionnaire)

Source: UNODC 2022

Media freedom remains an issue of concern. The TV channels, radio stations and the 20 or so newspapers and magazines are still very largely controlled or influenced by the Government and the ruling party. Only 20 or so of the 120 radio stations are privately owned.⁵³ Transmission licenses are granted by the Ministry of Telecommunications, technology, and media. Journalists have recurrently criticized the high cost of licenses impeding media pluralism and new players’ emergence as well as the opacity of the process used by the Government to grant transmission licenses.⁵⁴ Moreover, the authorities suspended the licenses of private television channels, while opposition militants prevented journalists from doing their work.⁵⁵ The ruling party is accused of having used the State’s network of newspapers, television and radio stations to shape public opinion, particularly in the run-up to the August 2022 elections.⁵⁶ Opposition party UNITA and Angolan CSOs warned of “systematic bias” in public media in favor of the ruling party⁵⁷. An independent survey conducted in June 2022 based on the national television channel (TPA) coverage showed that 9 of the 10 pieces in the news were about the President.⁵⁸ Furthermore, article 82 of the Press Law criminalizes publication of a text or image that is offensive to individuals, while the existence of defamation provisions in the new Penal Code may be used to silence dissent and penalize statements made by members of the media.⁵⁹

⁵³ Reporters without borders, 2021; HRC 2019a.

⁵⁴ US State Department, 2021.

⁵⁵ Amnesty International, 2022.

⁵⁶ Angola Telegraph, 2022b.

⁵⁷ O Guardião, 2022.

⁵⁸ Carvalho, 2022.

⁵⁹ UNHRC, 2019 a para 41.

Social media is free, but the spread of fake news is increasing. According to data from DATAREPORTAL, there were 12.41 million internet users in Angola in January 2022, representing a 3.2% growth from the year before. The country’s internet penetration rate stood at 36.0% of the total population, with Facebook being the most used social media platform. During the electoral period, analysis of sentiment of posts related to the elections on Twitter showed spikes of activity and of negative sentiment on key days, such as the announcement of results and the rulings of the Constitutional Court. The most active group age-wise was from 25-44 years old, a politically aware and active group that can play a significant role in the country’s democracy in the coming years. Additionally, the growth in the use of social media has been accompanied by a rise in the spread of misinformation. Following the elections, 12 citizens were arrested for allegedly financing and promoting the dissemination of audios and videos to “sow insecurity, hatred and panic among the populations.”⁶⁰ As more citizens gain access to the internet, social media usage will continue to grow, particularly among the youth, and become an increasingly important platform for the dissemination of information.

Peace and regional role

Angola has emerged as a key player in Central Africa, the Great Lakes region and beyond committed to strengthening peace and security in the continent. Angola holds the pro tempore presidency of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) up in December 2022 and of the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (CPLP) until 2023; it also holds the presidency of the Commission of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) and has taken the chairmanship of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) in December 2022 hosting the organization’s tenth Summit of its Chiefs of State and Government, under the slogan “Three Continents, Three Oceans, One Common Destiny: Building an OACPS Resilient and Durable”. Finally, Angola will take on the Presidency of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) in 2023.

Angola’s strategic position in Africa has also made it a key player in the African Union, which recently granted **President João Lourenço the title of AU Champion of Peace and Reconciliation.** The country has played a critical role in peace making and promoting political and security stability in Central Africa and the Great Lakes regions, which can be exemplified by its mediation between the Democratic Republic of Congo and Rwanda, and conflict resolution efforts in Central Africa Republic; the sending of a small contingent of troops to Cabo Delgado in Mozambique and two police officers to South Sudan; and hosting the Biennale of Luanda for a Culture of Peace in December 2021.

In light of Angola’s important continental role, the African Union (AU) 2063 Agenda and the priorities established by the Southern African Development Community (SADC)

⁶⁰ Digital, 2022.

are at the heart of the country's development trajectory, in terms of both, its national and regional aspirations. As such, Angola aims to contribute to the AU's goal of transforming Africa into a global powerhouse through enhancing collective prosperity of all African nations by prioritizing inclusive social and economic development, continental and regional integration, democratic governance and peace and security amongst other issues. In addition, the SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP 2020-2030) and SADC Vision 2050 are two strategic plans which seek to further deepen Southern Africa regional integration and foster development, of which Angola's contributions are key. The SADC strategic documents have as a foundation Peace, Security and Democratic Governance, and three interrelated pillars, namely: Industrial Development and Market Integration; Infrastructure Development in support of Regional Integration; and Social and Human Capital Development.



Humanitarian, Development, Peace triple nexus

The Humanitarian Development Peace triple nexus is the term used to capture the interlinkages between the humanitarian, development, and peace sectors in different contexts. It encompasses working together to more effectively meet peoples' immediate needs by mitigating risks and vulnerabilities, while at the same time prioritizing prevention, addressing root causes of conflict and supporting institutions for sustainable peace and development. As such, it aims to avoid the impact of cyclical or recurrent shocks and stresses that in turn exacerbate humanitarian needs. One of the key goals of HDP nexus is to reinforce national and local systems to work on collective outcomes with multi-year timeframes and based on leveraging comparative advantage of the institutions involved.

In the case of Angola, the triple nexus is a necessary lens when addressing the effects of climate change and the need for adaptation measures, for example in the Southern provinces of the country affected by drought. While humanitarian needs are addressed through the Disaster Risk Management Team, long term solutions to address serious concerns regarding food insecurity are being identified. In addition, the internal movement of Angolans and into Namibia under extreme duress weaken social cohesion and sustaining peace efforts. The construction of the Cafu Canal by the Government could be a key stepping stone in providing water to local communities and guaranteeing sustainable development of the region. Further integrated analysis, information management and coordination systems at national and regional level are needed to strengthen the nexus approach in these regions and more broadly throughout the country. The triple nexus approach is also relevant regarding the situation of asylum seekers and refugees.

Angola has approximately 56,000 persons under UNHCR's mandate considered to be in need of international protection, including over 30,000 asylum seekers and over 25,000 refugees⁶¹. The main challenge faced by this population continues to be the lack of valid documentation, as many refugees remain undocumented due to the suspension of registration by the Government since 2015.

⁶¹ For more information on the situation of asylum seekers and refugees, please consult the section "Human Rights and Leave No One Behind".

This segment of the population faces heightened protection risks such as detention, discrimination, abuse, and exploitation, while also facing greater difficulties in accessing basic services. As the government announced that it will step up efforts to issue documents to these groups, they will require to be fully included into regular social services and development plans as they are integrated in the country, in consonance with international laws and conventions ratified by the Angolan Government. ●

Selected opportunities

Axis I

(i) Consolidation of the Rule of Law and State Reform (iii) Justice, (iv) Social Communication and Freedom of Expression, (v) Civil Society

Axis VII

(ii) Home and Public Security Affairs

- ✓ The peaceful holding of the elections, which resulted in a renewed National Assembly, reaffirms Angola's advances regarding its democratic path and its consolidation as a stable country in the region. However, the main issue of inequalities is yet to be addressed and socioeconomic development still requires deeper reforms and improved governance. The election results represent a renewal of the government's mandate but also increased pressure for the State to deliver tangible results for the Angolan population in the next five years. The National Development Plan and the decentralization process are opportunities to orient the national budget and priorities to meet citizen demands, particularly those of young people who have demanded more accountability, more social services and better employment opportunities over the past years.
- ✓ It is estimated that Angola has lost up to USD 150 billion in illicit financial outflows, including USD 1.7 billion linked to illegal commodity trade in 2018. As asset recovery efforts intensify, Angola could recover up to USD 80 billion, which could be used for long term investments in infrastructure, the development of human capital, and hunger alleviation. To that end, it will be important for Angola to consolidate gains in anti-corruption, have a national strategy and review legislation related to asset recovery, administration of confiscated assets, effective beneficiaries and politically exposed persons (PEP). Angola's adherence to the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) is an important step in that direction.
- ✓ The 2022 elections brought an unprecedented number of women to positions of political power. As women exercise their mandates as ministers, governors, and members of parliament, they have an opportunity to play a role in developing, approving and supervising the enforcement of policies to fight issues related to gender inequality and gender-based violence, which are discussed in the following sections. This can pave the way for better opportunities for girls and women through the improvement of health and education services, the eradication of harmful cultural practices, such as child marriage and the economic empowerment of women through increased participation in the formal economy.



Economic transformation and inequality

3.2

National Development Plan Intervention Domains:

✓ Axis III

(iii) Higher Education, (iv) Science Technology and Innovation, (v) Employment, entrepreneurship and vocational training, (vii) Culture

✓ Axis IV

(iii) Gender equality, (vi) Youth

✓ Axis V

(i) Telecommunications and ICT, (iv) Energy, and (vi) Environment

✓ Axis VI

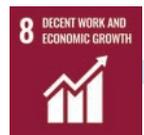
(i) Macroeconomic management, (ii) Support to national entrepreneurship and financing, (iii) Business environment, (iv) Formalization of the economy, (vii) and ix) Agriculture and fisheries; (x) Industry.

Overview

Since its exit from recession in 2021, the **projected growth trajectory of Angola has been so far confirmed with a real GDP growth rate of around 3.2 % (y/y) in the first two quarters of 2022**, driven by the strong recovery of the oil sector and protracted growth in the diamond sector. This positive scenario with fiscal surplus from 2021 allowed the draft **National Budget for 2023 to free up much needed resources to boost the socio-economic development envelope from 26.5% to 34% of total budget compared to 2022.**

Among others, **both the debt-GDP ratios and inflation negative trends were finally reversed** through a series of interventions, but were also significantly helped by the **appreciation of the local currency** which remains still volatile and a factor of macroeconomic instability.

The economic recovery finally helped to **turnaround the unemployment trends in Angola**, from over 34% and almost 60% among youth in the third quarter of 2021 30% and 54.2% respectively in the third quarter of 2022, but some of these trends have come along with **more youth dropping out of labor force**. The **current stabilization prospects remain dependent on the success of the country's diversification efforts**, included by the new NDP guidelines among its priorities as **"sustainable, inclusive and private sector-led economic diversification"**.



Nonetheless, efficiently **converting oil revenues into public investments and productive assets remains a challenge** with regard to economic diversification – especially as **Angola's window of opportunity for transforming mineral wealth into infrastructure and human capital is likely to close along with oil production decline⁶² and global decarbonization.**

In general, crucial non-oil sectors such as agriculture and fisheries are not showing yet a stable and inclusive high growth path. The **contribution of manufacturing to GDP (SDG 9.2.1) as a driver of economic transformation is below similar oil-dependent economies like Nigeria.**

The latest Human Development Report clearly reveals the **profound impact of cross-cutting inequality in Angola on its HDI**, lowering its value from 0.586 to 0.407, a loss of 30.5%. **The richest 1% of the population captured 26% of national income in 2018/2019.**

Women and youth are mostly excluded from the productive sectors of the economy, limiting their fundamental role in driving the economic transformation of the country.

In this scenario, even at current and projected growth rates, **the poverty rate could remain largely unchanged in the coming years above** if envisaged structural reforms are not undertaken with impetus.

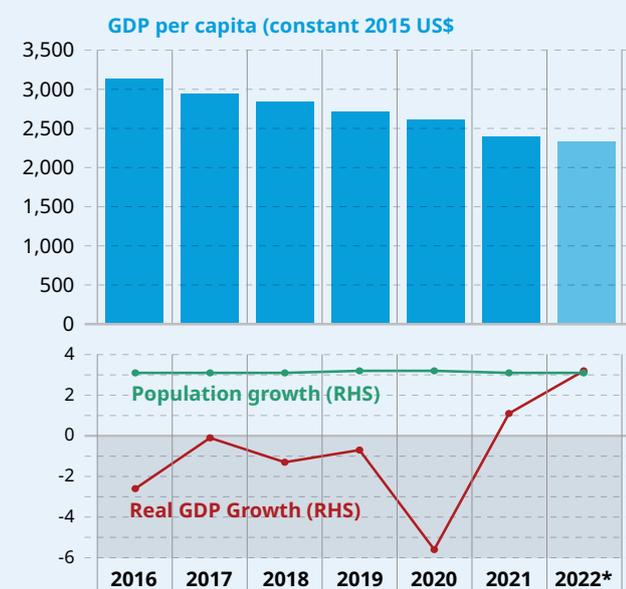
⁶² According to Fitch, Angola oil production could decline by 20% by 2031 (Novo Jornal, 2022).

Macroeconomic trends

Growth trends

In 2022 Angola continues to reap the benefits from high oil prices. After registering positive GDP growth for the first time in five years in 2021, GDP continued to expand into 2022, growing at 2.8% year-on-year in Q1 2022 and accelerating to 3.6% in Q2 2022

FIGURE 5 GDP per capita, real GDP and population growth rate



* Forecast (own elaboration)

Sources: WDI and INE.

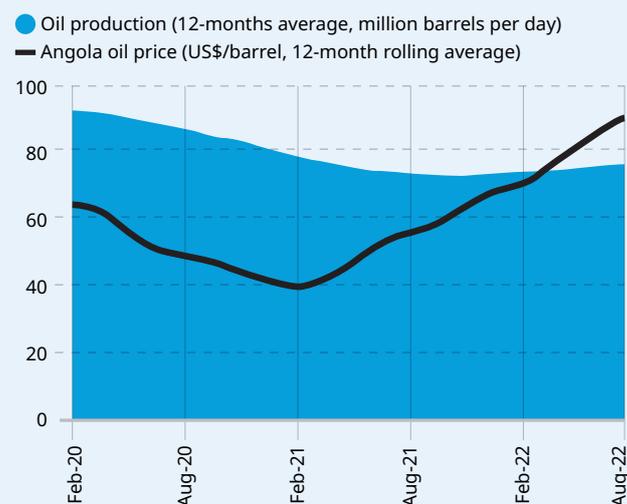
Since 2014, GDP growth has failed to keep up with population growth. Though population growth rate has fallen from 3.8 % a year in 2011 to 3.2 % in 2021, it remains high. This has resulted in population growth outpacing real GDP growth since 2014. GDP per capita has thus been declining from its peak of USD 3,207 in 2014, dropping to just USD 2,332 (constant 2015 USD) in 2021. Although economic growth is expected to accelerate over the next years, it will likely continue to trail population growth. Consequently, per capita, GDP is expected to further decline or, at best stagnate, highlighting the need for more rapid economic growth and family planning.

This might have consequences also on the graduation of Angola from LDC status, as GNI per capita (Atlas method) represents one of the three graduation criteria⁶³. Using the latest IMF economic forecast, the GNI per capita criterion in Angola is expected to drop and remain below the income-only graduation threshold in the coming years, which could pose a challenge to the automatic graduation of Angola in February 2024⁶⁴.

⁶³ A country whose per capita income is sustainably above the “income-only” graduation threshold, set at twice the graduation threshold (USD 2,444 at the 2021 triennial review), becomes eligible for graduation, even if it fails to meet the other two criteria.

⁶⁴ United Nations Committee for Development Policy, February 2022 and February 2020.

FIGURE 6 Oil production (million barrels/day) and oil price (USD/barrel)



Sources: MINFIN and US Energy Information Administration.

Angola’s oil production expanded slightly in the first half of 2022, the extractive sector contributing the most to economic growth in Q2 2022. High oil prices and more investments enabled a stabilization of oil production in 2022. Although **oil prices** have declined from USD 120 in June to USD 90 in September, they are still higher than the estimated 59 USD per barrel in OGE 2022 and **could lead to a significant windfall in 2022**. According to Fitch, Angolan oil production could decline by 20% by 2031⁶⁵, though a reversal in dropping investments in oil fields is possible, following plans from recent deals⁶⁶.

Fiscal and debt trends

Following a round of fiscal distress triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic, a strong fiscal policy response combined with debt reprofiling allowed Angola to avert a looming debt crisis. In 2020, given the pandemic containment measures around the world, which abruptly reduced global demand for oil, Angola experienced debt distress. As GDP contracted and the currency depreciated, the debt-to-GDP ratio reached a high of 136.8 % of GDP at the end of 2020. Debt reprofiling by G20 countries under the DSSI and additional bilateral agreements reduced short-term financing needs. Combined with the slow recovery of the oil price in the second half of 2020 and strong fiscal adjustment, this averted a liquidity crisis of the Angolan government.

Over the last months, the authorities have prudently used oil revenue windfalls, but also thanks to a bulging primary surplus, **the draft national budget for 2023 plans the debt servicing share to decline from 51% to 45%, while boosting the socio-economic development envelope from 26.5% to 34% of total budget** compared to 2022. This allowed for savings and accelerated debt reduction, which together with currency appreciation, improved

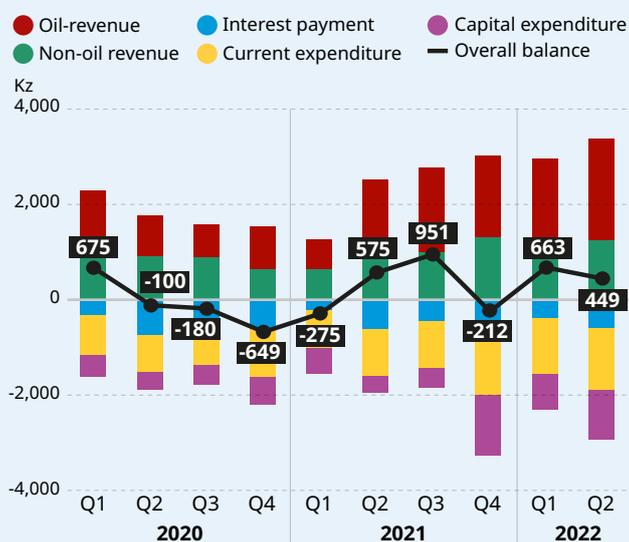
⁶⁵ Novo Jornal, 2022.

⁶⁶ Further Africa, 2022.

Angola's public debt situation. However, efficiently converting oil revenues into public investments and productive assets remains a challenge with regard to economic diversification – especially as Angola's window of opportunity for transforming mineral wealth into infrastructure and human capital is likely to close, along with oil production decline and global decarbonization.

According to IMF⁶⁷, while Angola has made strong strides in addressing numerous shortcomings in fiscal transparency and government finance statistics, significant weaknesses remain and many shortcomings remain especially in public investment management (e.g. budgeting, project selection, procurement, SOE and PPP oversights) and in tax administration, including compliance risk management, audit function, e-filing for large and medium sized taxpayers, information management and governance of the IT function.

FIGURE 7 Fiscal balance (in Billion Kz, Q1 2020-Q2 2022)



Sources: MINFIN

In real terms, total revenues increased by 16 % in 2021, while expenditures increased at a slower pace (9.3 %). **Thus, the overall fiscal surplus was recovered (3.1 % of GDP)** with the primary surplus reaching 8.1 % of GDP. The non-oil primary deficit expanded to 4.8 % of GDP. Q2 2022 saw record oil gains but a decline of the fiscal surplus as investments and interest payments picked up⁶⁸. On 7th October, the Economic Commission of the Cabinet approved the overall status of accounts for 2021, confirming a budget surplus of Kz 794 Billion⁶⁹.

After rising rapidly in the first half of 2022, oil exports slowed in Q3 2022 amid lower oil prices. While imports and non-oil exports remained largely stable, oil export growth slowed in Q3 2022. The trade surplus thus narrowed compared to Q2 2022 and stood 26 % lower in

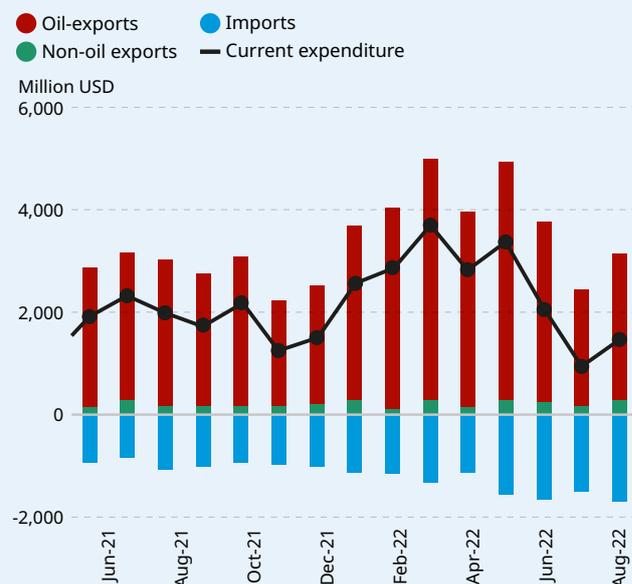
⁶⁷ IMF, 2022.

⁶⁸ MINFIN, 2022a.

⁶⁹ MINFIN, 2022b.

August 2022 than in the previous year. The previous increase in imports reflected a strengthening of the Kwanza and a partial recovery of domestic purchasing power, which had collapsed after the outbreak of the pandemic.⁷⁰

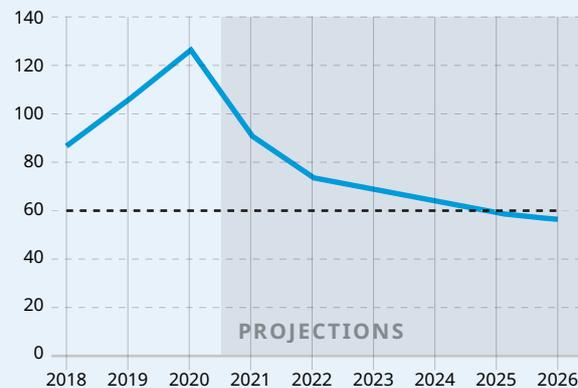
FIGURE 8 Trade balance (Million USD)



Source: BNA

Angola's debt situation improved rapidly in 2021, as oil prices recovered. With nominal GDP expanding and the currency gaining ground, public debt fell rapidly to 86.3 % of GDP by the end of 2021. In 2022, public debt is projected to be driven down to around 60 % of GDP. The fall will be driven by the impact of the recent structural fiscal consolidation and supported by oil revenues, which also provide a natural medium-term hedge to the initial exchange rate shock. As a result, Angola's public debt remains sustainable, assuming continued fiscal discipline and implementation of growth-enhancing structural reforms, although risks remain very high, including: a) lower-than-forecast non-oil growth; b) reversal of the recent oil price recovery; c) faster than expected decline in oil production; d) severe weather conditions; e) global monetary tightening conditions.

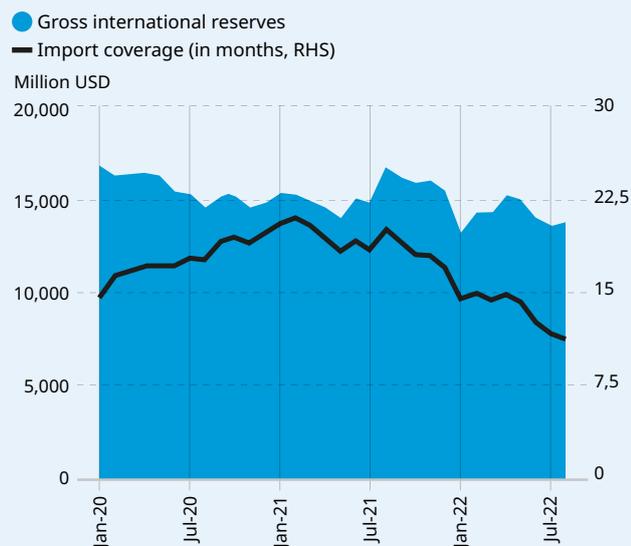
FIGURE 9 Government Debt (% of GDP)



Source: IMF

⁷⁰ BNA, 2022a.

FIGURE 10 Gross international reserves (Million USD) and Import coverage



Source: BNA

External buffers remain adequate but declined slightly amid import growth and lower oil exports in Q3 2022 (WB). With lower oil exports and constant imports, Angola's gross reserves and especially import coverage have declined in Q3 2022. Import coverage, though it remains adequate, has decreased by a cumulative 70% since June 2021 as imports have increased strongly in that time.

Monetary and inflation trends

FIGURE 11 Currency exchange rate (USD/Kz)

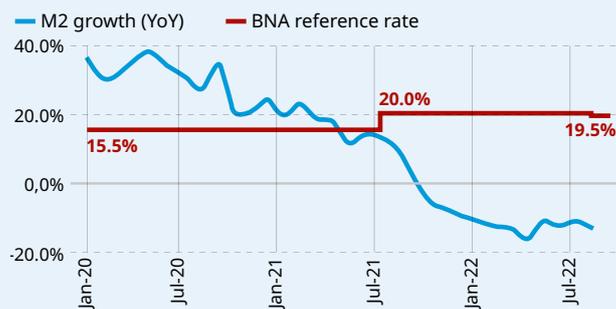


Source: BNA

Following a long period of currency depreciation and the free floating regime at the end of 2017, the Angolan Kwanza (Kz) stopped its fall against the USD in September 2021, with an accumulated nominal appreciation of around 36% between 1st September 2021 and 1st May 2022⁷¹. However, since May and until mid-November 2022, the trend inverted with the Kwanza depreciating at more than 25% against the USD. This could impact on the efforts to keep inflation at bay.

⁷¹ This has roughly followed also the increase in oil prices in the same period and has led to a stabilization of international foreign reserves between 13 and 15 billion USD in 2022.

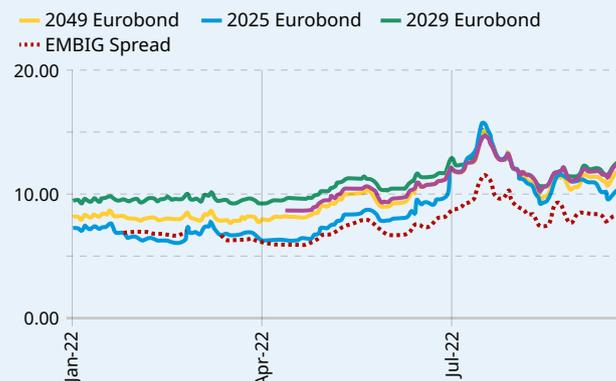
FIGURE 12 Money supply growth and BNA reference rate (%)



Source: BNA

The central bank started to gradually loosen monetary policy by cutting the policy rate by 0.5% in September 2022 for the first time since 2019 but above inflation rate. Also, the reserve requirement in local currency has been loosened. This has slowed the reduction of money supply, which stood 6% above pre-pandemic levels in August 2022. Currency volatility prevented BNA from further reducing the policy rate in November 2022⁷².

FIGURE 13 Bond Yields (%)



Source: BNA

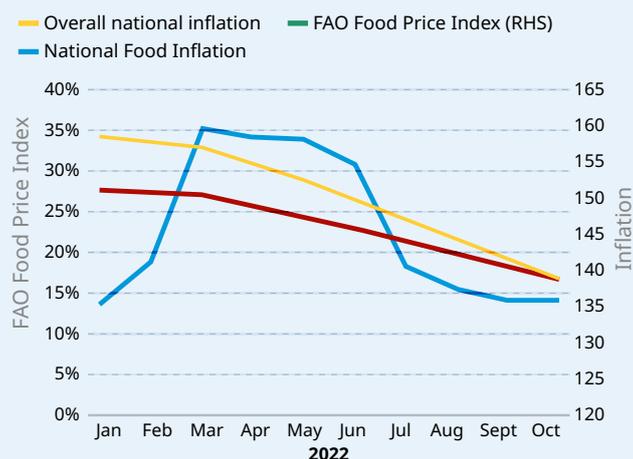
Bond yields have recently been facing upward pressures amid tightening global financing conditions, higher risk premiums, and geopolitical tensions. Due to global risk aversion and interest rate hikes, Angola's bond yields have been volatile and in late September, they stood at an average of 11.6%, up from 7.8% in mid-February. In April, Angola took advantage of favorable market conditions and issued USD1.75 billion in 10-year Eurobonds to roll over debt due to come in 2025.

After reaching its peak of 27.7% in January 2022, overall national inflation started its downward trend falling by more than 10% to 16.7% in October below the central bank's target of 18% by end of 2022, aided by the appreciating local currency. Domestic food inflation has come down even faster, more than halving in the same period from over 34% to 17% in 2022, as global food price growth slowed down⁷³.

⁷² BNA, 2022b.

⁷³ INE, 2022b.

FIGURE 14 Overall national and food inflation vs. FAO Food price Index (%)

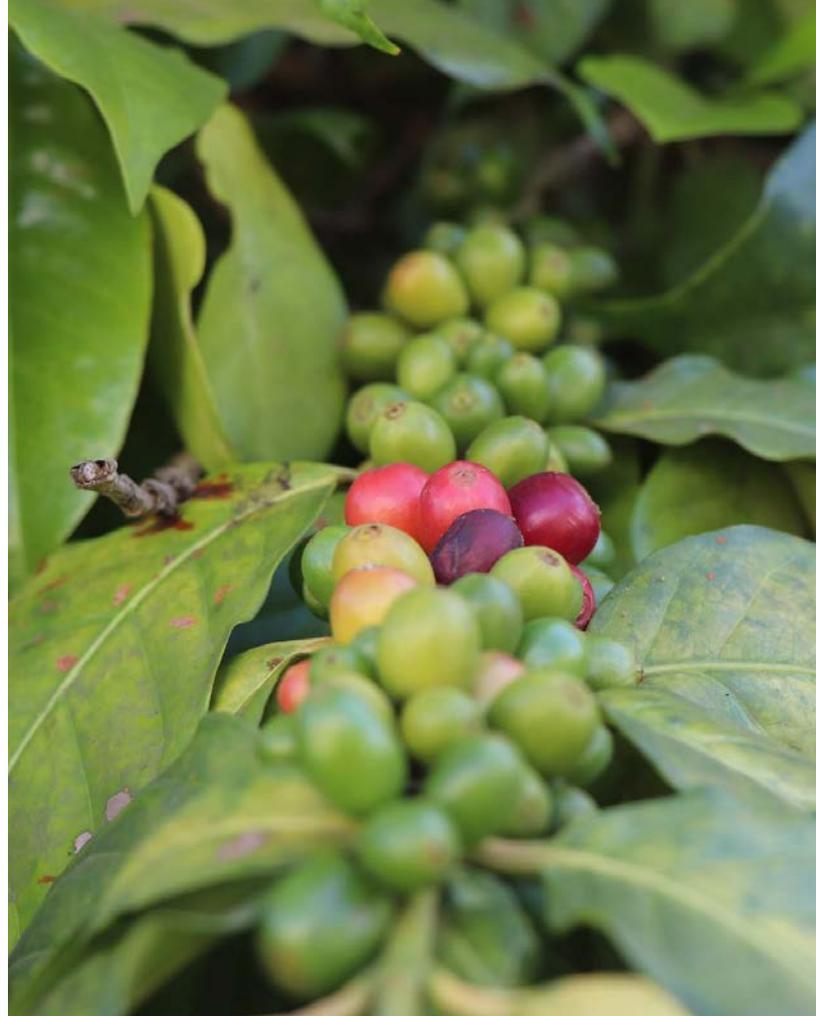


Sources: INE and FAO

Food inflation partially reflects a catch-up between global and domestic prices since currency devaluation. This process has been eased by higher local production. Rising global food prices in recent months have not (yet) translated into accelerated food inflation in Angola, which can be explained also by the following Government measures: a) Establishment of the Strategic Food Reserve, a mechanism created to stabilize basic food prices; b) VAT reduction for selected essential goods from 14% to 7%. However, the recent trends in currency depreciation could undermine the progress so far.

Macroeconomic medium-term outlook

The future optimistic economic growth prospects of Angola in the medium-term depend on a series of assumptions, including the fact that the re-elected government will scale up public investments in the social and productive sectors of the economy to press ahead with the economic diversification process. With oil production projected to continue on its structural decline by 2024, **most of the investment and productivity gains would need to originate from the non-oil sector.**



Private and public consumption are expected to continue growing as the economy recovers from the long recessionary cycle, driven by a more dynamic non-oil sector as a result of improved macroeconomic stability. As fiscal space is likely to remain limited and the authorities continue to bring down the public debt ratio, much of the needed investment will need to come from the private sector and improvement in public investment efficiency. Although imports will continue growing, the pace of import growth is expected to slow as domestic production, especially in the agricultural sector, increases, slowly lowering Angola's high level of import dependency.

TABLE 3 IMF and WB forecast for selected macroeconomic indicators

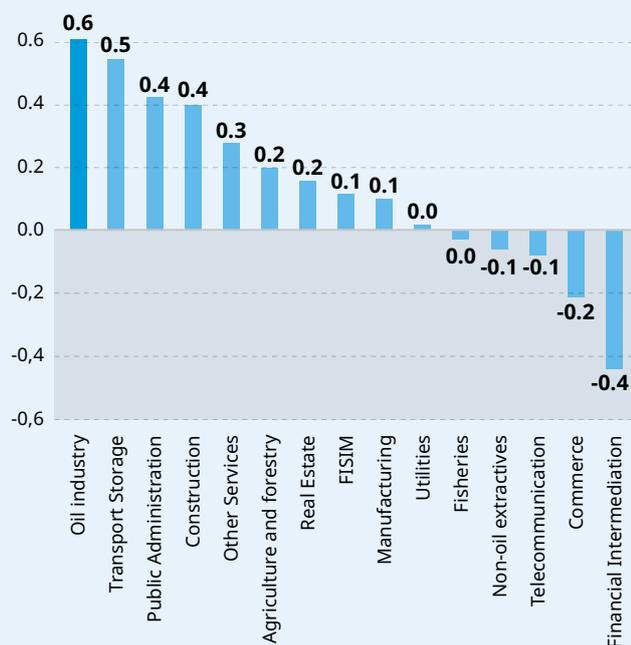
Indicator	2022	2023	2024	Source
Real GDP Growth (%)	2.9	3.3	3.7	IMF
	3.1	2.8	2.9	WB
Debt (% of GDP)	78.9	73.6	67.4	IMF
	61.9	61.3	62.5	WB
Fiscal Balance (% of GDP)	2.4	1.6	1.3	IMF
	1 (primary) 5.3	0.2 (primary) 4.0	-0.2 (primary) 4.5	WB
Inflation (PCI-%)	22.6	14.1	8.9	WB
	19.5	9.8	7.5	IMF

74 IMF, 2022.

75 World Bank, 2022a.

Diversification Trends (Trade and production)

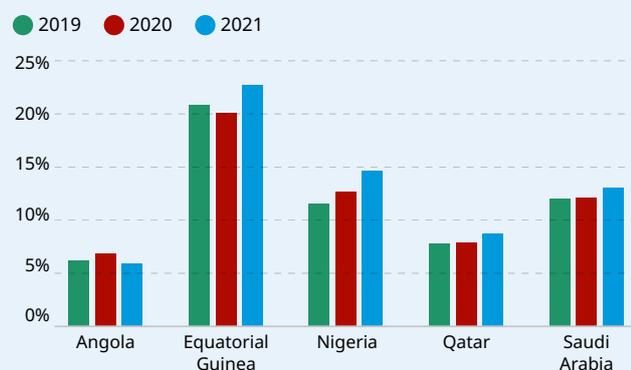
FIGURE 15 Sectoral contributions to GDP in the first semester of 2022 (%)



Source: INE

Compared to 2021, oil production has become the biggest driver of growth in the first half of 2022. Agriculture continued its sustained growth path above 3% in 2022, but lower than the overall 5.2% in 2021. Moreover, fisheries, which were seen as a diversification driver in 2021 (46.4%), saw their first contraction (-8.2%) in the second quarter of 2022 and the crucial role of manufacturing is not unleashing yet its full strength with growth values below 3% in 2022⁷⁶.

FIGURE 16 Manufacturing value added/GDP-SDG 9.2.1 (%)



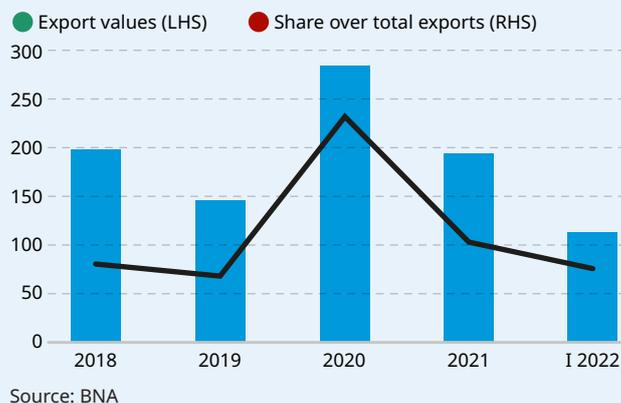
Source: WDI

Splitting industry into its main subsectors (construction, utilities, manufacturing and oil/mining) shows the still low contribution of manufacturing value added to GDP (SDG

⁷⁶ INE, 2022c.

9.2.1) below 7%, limiting its fundamental role in raising LDCs' productivity and employment and in reducing inequality at these levels of GDP⁷⁷. This falls also short of the expected increase to over 9% in 2025 (National Industrial Development Plan), and below even other oil-dependent countries in Africa, like Nigeria, which recorded some significant progress in this respect, increasing MVA share from 9% in 2017 to almost 15% in 2021.

FIGURE 17 Non oil/gas/diamond exports (Million USD)



Source: BNA

Over the past three years, excluding oil, gas and diamonds, the contribution of other sectors to the trade surplus started declining again in relative (below 1%) and absolute terms (by almost USD 100 Million). In Q2 2022, the main non-oil/gas/diamond exports were marine and aviation, fish, and granite. On the import side, fuel imports represented 26% of the total, other imports being mainly machinery (22%), food (15%), and chemical products (7%)⁷⁸.

A recent UNCTAD study⁷⁹ showed that Angola has the potential to export a further 4,092 new products, of which a good 75% are more complex than the country's average.

TABLE 4 Export diversification potential of Angola

Current diversification (number of products)	2,296
Potential new products	4,092
Potential new products more complex than the country's average	3,069
Potential new products more complex (percentage)	75
Export opportunity in more complex products (percentage)	44
Import replacement opportunity in more complex products (percentage)	39

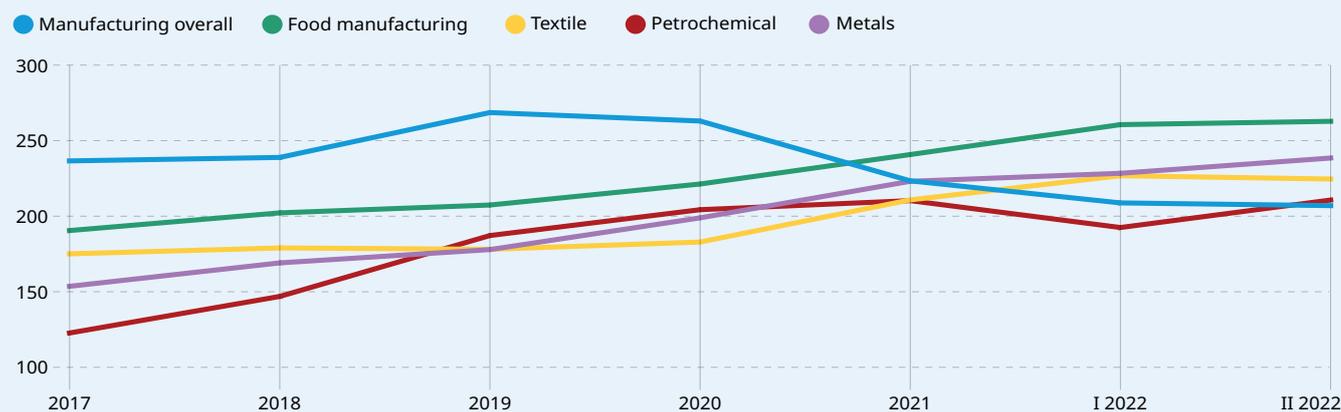
Source: UNCTAD

⁷⁷ UNIDO, 2020.

⁷⁸ BNA, 2022a.

⁷⁹ UNCTAD, 2022a.

FIGURE 18 Index of Industrial Production (2010=100)



Source: INE

Agriculture and Manufacturing production



Diversifying exports and tapping into foreign markets opportunities entails the strengthening of productive capacities to deliver competitive products that can also comply with requirements of these markets. Regular National Productive Capacities Gap Assessments⁸⁰ can support the monitoring of latest progress in terms of productive capacities and production trends. This is even more warranted as the GoA focused its efforts on increasing production for the domestic market, including through programmes like PRODESI (Program to Support Production, Export Diversification and Import Substitution).

While looking at the crucial role of manufacturing in enabling that economic transformation, the acceleration in the industrial production observed until 2021, and driven by food, seems to have lost some momentum since 2021,

⁸⁰ UNCTAD, 2022b.

with important subsectors like metals and petrochemical losing ground⁸¹. Moreover, recent evidence from MIND-COM shows a significant gap among provinces in terms of industrial licenses since 2017, with over 75% concentrated in Luanda and almost 10% in Huila, confirmed also by the number of manufacturing enterprises, with almost 70% in Luanda, Huila and Benguela in 2019⁸².

Agriculture production

According to FAO, Angola has potentially 57 million hectares of arable land, of which less than 10% (around 5.3 million hectares) was cultivated in 2020-2021⁸³. **Overall, Angola has not seen a significant increase in agriculture production in the past years**, with the FAO gross production index showing only a slight increase of 6-8% in the period 2018-2020, compared to 2014-2016. Factor-

⁸¹ INE, 2022e.

⁸² INE, 2019a.

⁸³ MINAGRIP, 2021a.





ing in the high demographic growth rates, this has meant a decline of the same index in per capita terms from 100 to below 92 since 2014-2016. This is partly confirmed also by the MINAGRIP report for 2020-2021⁸⁴, showing limited growth for many sectors, including cereals, and with the notable exceptions of cassava and fruits. The same report shows that women heading agricultural households were only 43.5% of total in 2020/21, in spite of representing more than 55% of total employed in agriculture⁸⁵.

Wheat and rice are produced in very low quantities in the country and represent the largest share of grain imports, equal to 675,000 and 560,000 tons, an increase of 4% and 17% compared to the five-year average. In the 2022/23 marketing year, cereal imports, meeting on average 40% of the domestic cereal consumption requirement, are forecast at an above-average level of 1.6 million tons⁸⁶.

Overall, food import dependence increased by almost 46% from USD 938.4 million in the first semester 2021 to 1,367.9 million USD in 2022 (preliminary results of first semester⁸⁷).

⁸⁴ Ibid.

⁸⁵ INE, 2020b.

⁸⁶ FAO, 2022a.

⁸⁷ BNA 2021c and 2022a.

In 2021, fisheries production was one of the main drivers of GDP growth, contributing to overall 1.1% of change. The preliminary national account figures for the first semester of 2022 point at a significant deceleration of production, down from overall 46.4% in 2021 (y/y) to 5.6 (Q1) and -8.2% (Q2) in 2022⁸⁸.

Production Capacities and Vulnerabilities Index

The Productive Capacities Index (PCI)⁸⁹ well summarizes the driving elements affecting the lagging economic transformation Angola is pursuing through its diversification efforts: Angola's performance in human capital, structural change, ICT, and the private sector is among the lowest in the world and below LDC average as well as that of other countries in the region. In 2018, the country's overall PCI was 22.16, ranking below the average for LDCs (24.04)⁹⁰.

⁸⁸ INE, 2022c.

⁸⁹ Composed of eight categories measured by 46 indicators: Natural capital, human capital, energy (electricity), ICT, transport, structural change, private sector and institutions. UNCTAD, 2018.

⁹⁰ UNCTAD, 2016.

TABLE 5 Productive capacities index of Angola and selected graduating LDC comparators (2018)

Country	PCI	Energy	Human capital	ICT	Natural capital	Institutions	Private sector	Structural change	Transport
Angola	22.16	22.77	35.89	4.99	32.18	51.94	65.58	12.33	10.54
Equatorial Guinea	23.47	21.83	35.14	6.41	24.61	42.01	70.45	16.02	16.07
Sao Tome Principe	26.73	19.56	43.72	7.17	48.42	46.70	75.81	16.27	15.23
LDCs	24.04	18.87	37.96	6.11	38.54	57.92	71.19	14.05	13.66

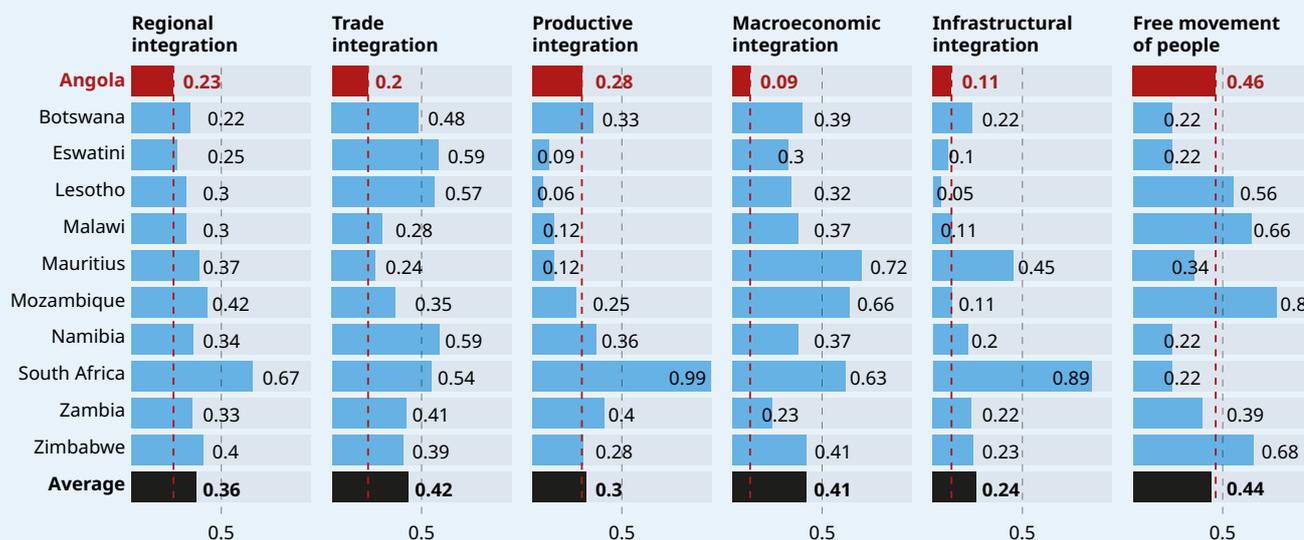
Source: UNCTAD

Regional Trends and Trade opportunities

Angola is a member of two Regional Economic Communities (RECs) – Southern African Development Community (SADC) and Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS). As a member of SADC, it is covered by the provisions of the Tripartite FTA (COMESA-SADC-EAC), aiming to bring the three RECs closer together and to facilitate trade.

The African Regional Integration Index (ARII) assesses the regional integration status across countries. The ARII measures the level of integration based on five indices⁹¹.

FIGURE 19 Africa Regional Integration Index for SADC countries (2019)



Source: UNECA 2022

Angola exhibits the lowest regional integration index among SADC countries, driven by low performance in the trade, macroeconomic and productive integration, which indicates that more can be done to boost intra-regional trade and integration under the AfCFTA. The infrastructural integration index is also very low (0.11), showing limited infrastructure regional development. Overall, the average cost of trade at 170% within continent and percentage of merchandise value for manufactured goods in 2019 was the highest in Angola across the Southern African region. The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) has the potential to further bolster intra-regional trade. Angola has ratified the AfCFTA Agreement but is yet to initiate actions towards the development of a national AfCFTA implementation strate-

gy. President João Lourenço's State of the Nation's address, which highlights the importance of Angola engaging in "economic diplomacy", could point to increased efforts of regional integration. Further engagement in regional trade, including through successful implementation of the trade liberalization measures, should be prioritized as a promising means for delivering new sources of growth for Angola.

Economic inclusion

Angola still exhibits evident unequal distribution in terms of access to some services, such as credit, energy and IT across different dimensions: size of enterprises, rural-urban location, gender, among others.

Access to credit

Financial inclusion is still limited in Angola. Rural residents are half as likely to have a bank account and only 41% of women have an account, compared to 55% of men. The ability to access a transaction account is a first step toward broader financial inclusion, because a transaction account allows people to store and receive payments.⁹² Financial exclusion may also be partly attributed to the fact that many women, in particular rural women, face barriers to obtain identity documents, which restricts their access to, inter alia, employment opportunities, bank loans and property.⁹³

⁹¹ The ARII includes the following five indexes: (a) Trade integration measured by the following indicators: level of customs duties on imports, share of intra-regional goods exports (% GDP), share of intra-regional goods imports (% GDP), and share of total intra-regional goods trade. (b) Productive integration includes the share of intra-regional intermediate goods exports; share of intra-regional intermediate goods imports; and intra-regional exports goods; share of intra-regional intermediate goods imports; and merchandise trade complementarity index. (c) Financial and macroeconomic integration includes regional convertibility of national currencies and inflation rate differential; (d) regional infrastructural integration index includes the infrastructure development index (transport; electricity; information and communications technology; and water and sanitation); proportion of intra-regional flights; total regional electricity trade (net) per capita; and average cost of roaming (e) Free movement of people includes ratification (or not) of the REC protocol on free movement of persons; % of REC member countries whose nationals do not require a visa for entry; and % of REC member countries whose nationals are issued with a visa on arrival.

⁹² World Bank Group/BNA 2020.

⁹³ CEDAW, 2019 para 33(a).



Micro, Small, and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs) represent the backbone of the Angolan economy and account for 99% of all the active companies in 2019.⁹⁴ They play therefore a very strategic role in terms of employment creation and poverty reduction.

TABLE 6 Key figures on MSMEs in Angola

Indicator	Micro	Small	Medium	Large
Average size (% total) in 2019	72.5	22.3	4.3	0.9
Access to credit* (% tot. funded) until Dec 21	3.07	2.97	45.61	48.35
Access to credit* (% tot. projects) until Dec 21	14	17.69	39.95	11.53

Source: INE and BNA. * Disbursed under Aviso 10/2020

Recent figures from the BNA⁹⁵ show the limited capacity of this type of enterprises to obtain large amounts of credit from banks, even when under pressure to disburse credit. According to a Presidential Decree⁹⁶: micro and small en-

terprises managed to access respectively 4.36% and 3.99% of total credit disbursed so far between 2020 and October 2021, with the big enterprises receiving almost 50%. However, the number of projects approved under the same law for Micro and Small Enterprises represented more than 40% of total, which also demonstrates the fragmented size of projects.

Credit to the private sector as a share of GDP has declined over the past several years, and much of the private lending that does take place is limited to trade financing and support under the government backed lines, which does not promote much domestic production. The difficulties stem from three areas:

Enabling environment: Angola's credit infrastructure is weak, although progress is being made toward establishing, expanding, and upgrading a credit bureau and electronic moveable property registry. A new corporate insolvency law was recently passed, which will be important in enabling banks to recover collateral in the event of a default.

Supply: The reluctance to lend to the private sector is exacerbated by the government's high fiscal financing needs, which means that banks have a low-risk, relatively high-return alternative to riskier private sector lending. Fortunately, the Angolan government has made efforts to mitigate the crowding-out effects by committing to a debt reduction path.

Demand: On the borrowing side, many firms – in particular, MSMEs (inclusive of the agricultural sector, see below) – lack the capacity to develop and implement business cases, produce required documentation, and offer acceptable collaterals to apply for loans. In some sectors, the Angolan government, in particular PRODESI, has taken steps to help with loan applications.

⁹⁴ INE, 2019a.

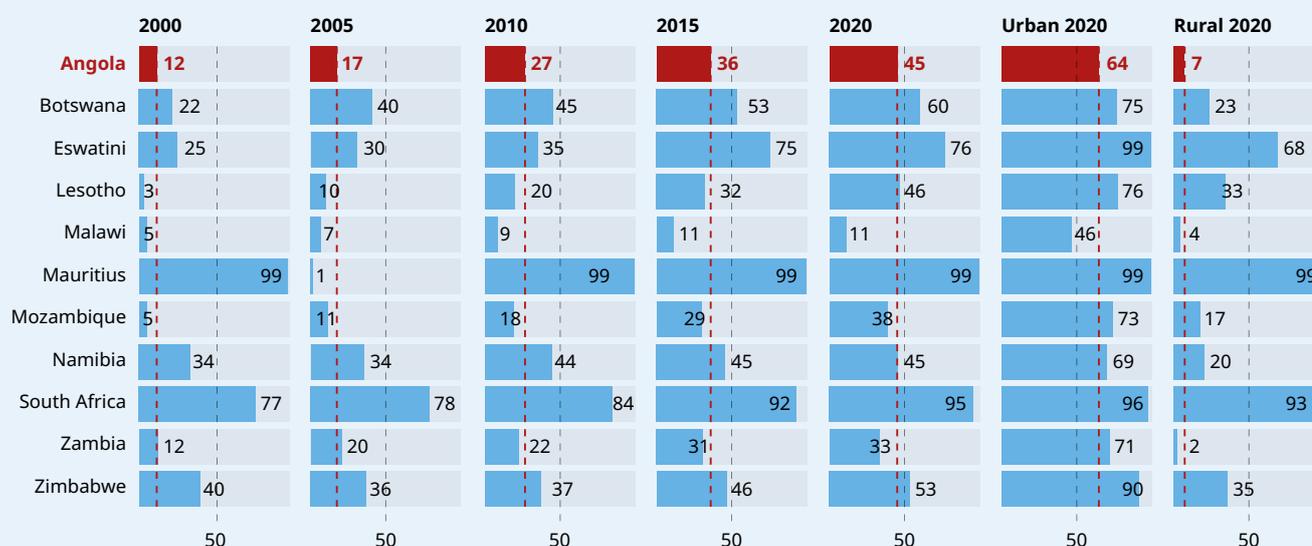
⁹⁵ BNA, 2021f.

⁹⁶ The Aviso 10/2020 mandated financial institutions to allocate at least 2.5% of their net assets value at end-2019 to provide credit to support the production of the essential goods included in the PRODESI.

Access to energy and IT

Angola has progressed on some of the key enablers, notably access to electricity; however, **a significant rural-urban gap still persists of over 50% in 2020**, with only 7% of the rural population covered, just above Malawi and Zambia in the SADC region.

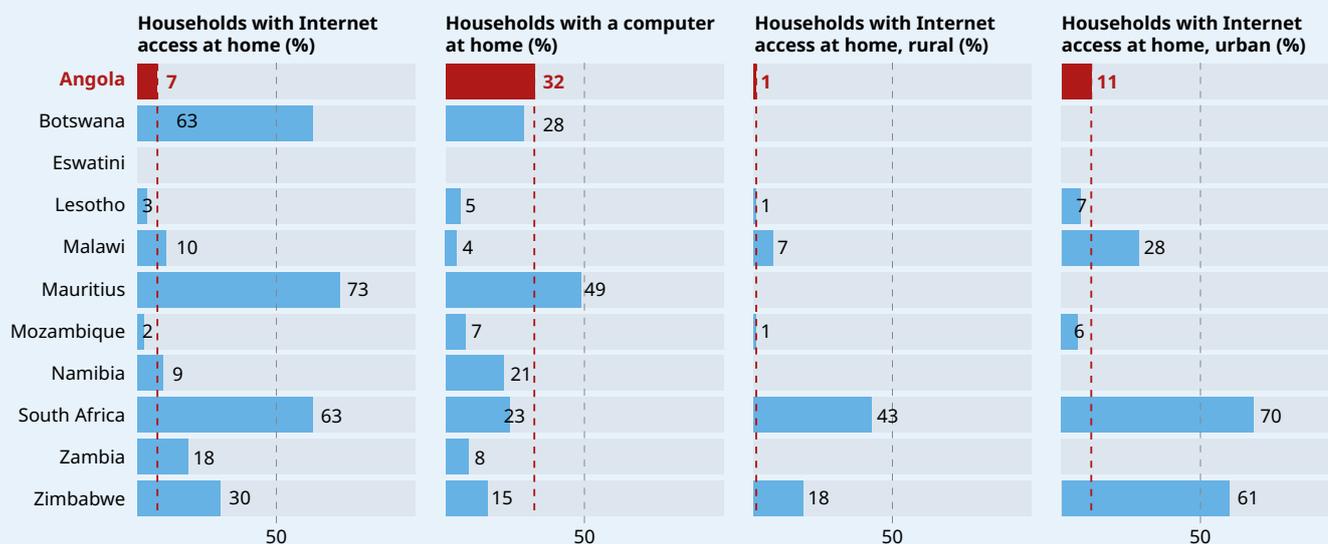
FIGURE 20 Proportion of the population with access to electricity (%)



Source: UNECA 2022

The rural-urban gap is also evident in terms of access to computer and internet at home, being ten times higher in urban areas⁹⁷. Whereas 90% of the population is covered by a mobile network and 87% by at least a 3G network, only 20% of people enjoyed active mobile broadband subscription in 2020.

FIGURE 21 Proportion of the population with access to a computer at home and internet (2020)



Source: UNECA 2022

⁹⁷ See also United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR), 2016, paras 57 and 58 stating “The Committee recommends that the State party redouble its efforts to increase access to the Internet, especially by disadvantaged and marginalized groups and individuals and in rural areas”.

Employment, poverty and inequality trends

Unemployment and access to vocational training

When looking at (un)employment trends in Angola, gender, rural-urban and age gaps emerge as striking features of the labor market.

A recent AfDB study⁹⁸ tries to shed light on determinants of labor outcomes? in Angola, with some preliminary findings on gender gap as follows:

- **Men have a 4% higher probability of leaving unemployment when compared to women, when all other characteristics are held constant;**
- **the probability of being an informal worker is 3% higher for women, when controlling for other characteristics. The result indicates again the inequalities in the labor market with women having less access to quality jobs (formal jobs);**
- **If the worker is looking for a job, higher education contributes to increasing the probability of leaving unemployment by 7%;**

The final economic outcome is a **significant gender wage gap** (average salary of Kz 76,622.76 for men and Kz 29,922.48 for women) with only part of it (Kz 25,477.95) explained by objective reasons (for example, men have on average more schooling, which is related to higher wages) and with the remaining Kz 21,222.32 of this difference that can be attributed to inequality of treatment.



This last finding clearly links SDG4 gender inequalities as observed in the education section of this report to the employment and economic outcome, clearly pointing at a cascade effect that starts with primary education and incrementally amplifies until tertiary education which, as observed in the AfDB study, then **make women less capable to leave unemployment or to mostly fall into informal employment.**

Informality remains widespread and hits mostly women (almost 90%) and rural areas (almost 95%)⁹⁹ and associated with limited coverage under social security, poor access to social services and business services, and including financial and digital inclusion.

Limited diversification also does not help. The excessive dependence on a subsector of the economy (oil extraction) that is usually not gender inclusive also leads Angola to present **very low female participation rates in industry**¹⁰⁰, at around 1.4% of all employed women, compared to more than 10% for men, relegating most female employ-

⁹⁸ AfDB, 2022.

⁹⁹ INE, 2022d.

¹⁰⁰ The female participation rate in industry for Angola was under 1% in 2020, even below Saudi Arabia and Nigeria (WDI).

ment to agriculture (62.5%) and services (36.2%)¹⁰¹. In other words, 87.8% of the employment positions in lucrative industries was occupied by men in 2020, where productivity and salaries are much higher¹⁰².

TABLE 7 **Employment structure by sex and gender wage gap in Angola in 2020**

	Men	Women
Share of informal employment (% Q3 2022)	70.5	87.8
Share of employment in industry over total employment by sex (%)	10.1	1.4
Share of employment in industry (%)	87.8	12.2
Average salary in industry (Kz)	72,276	29,338

Source: INE 2020b

This is a significant missed opportunity for Angola, as among others, the same AfDB study shows that the **rate of return to schooling for women is higher when compared to men**, pointing at the importance of investing in women's education beyond primary education. For instance, the return to higher education (in terms of earnings from work) is around 300% for women versus 200% of men¹⁰³.

On the other hand, the same AfDB study also finds out that **the probability of remaining unemployed is higher for the 15-24 age category**, pointing at the need to devise strategies to help the youth finding a job or seek qualifications. The probability of getting out of unemployment for a worker in the 25-34 or 35-44 age group is 11% higher in relation to the reference group of young people aged 15-24.

Access to vocational training represents an important lever, especially for young people to get out of unemployment. The AfDB study confirms that **technical training courses increase the probability of finding a job by 2%**. This is in line with CEDAW's recommendation to encourage women and girls to choose non-traditional fields of education and careers, including traditionally male-dominated areas

¹⁰¹ INE, 2020b.

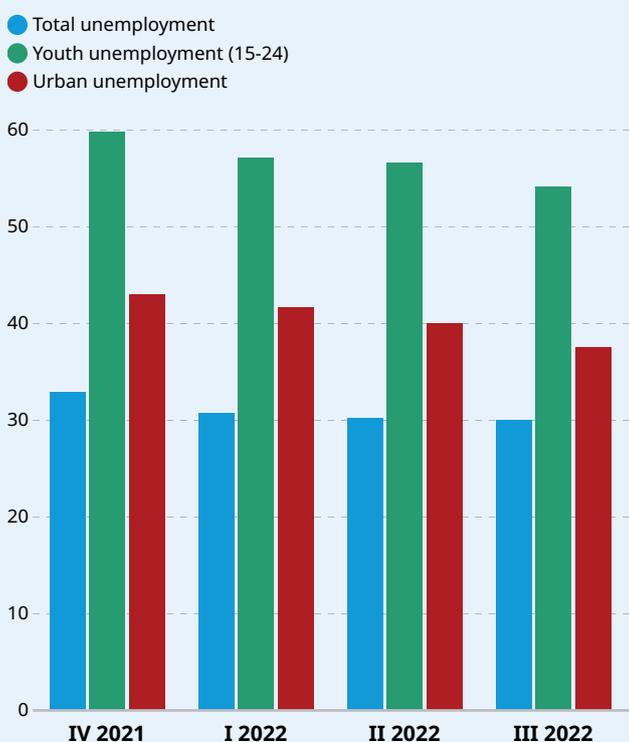
¹⁰² The biggest national Angolan oil company, Sonangol, confirms this gap, reporting only 31.8% posts occupied by women in the company in 2020 (Sonangol, 2020).

¹⁰³ "A total investment of just USD 1.53 per day per girl in emerging economies would have a huge impact on countries' overall economic potential. For example, economies that achieve 100% secondary school completion rates for girls by 2030 could see their GDP being boosted by an average of 10%." (UNICEF 2022b).

such as science, technology, engineering and mathematics, and ensure their access to TVET¹⁰⁴. However, young men are 2% more likely to take a TVET course than women who represented only 25% of total 33,200 enrolled in TVET at INEFOP in 2022, in spite of an annual increase in enrollments by 36.5%¹⁰⁵.

In line with the favorable macroeconomic scenario, the overall unemployment rate started declining at the beginning of 2022, settling at 30% in Q3 of 2022, after reaching almost 35% in Q3 of 2021, and driving youth and urban employment down to 54.2% and 37.6% respectively from 43% and almost 60% in 2021. Overall, unemployment is 4% higher among women than men (32% versus 27.9%) and employment is also 5% lower for women than for men, and mostly informal (87.8 versus 70.5%) in Q3 2022¹⁰⁶.

FIGURE 22 Unemployment rates: total, youth and urban (%)



Source: INE

However, without structural transformation of the economy towards diversification, it is likely that most created jobs would be in the informal sector and not in highly productive sectors. More worryingly, the number of youth who are not available for work increased by almost 400,000 units in the third quarter of 2022 on a y/y basis, explaining one third of reduction in youth unemployment in the same period¹⁰⁷.

¹⁰⁴ CEDAW, 2019 para 36(e).

¹⁰⁵ Expansão, 23 February 2022.

¹⁰⁶ INE, 2022d.

¹⁰⁷ Please note INE adopts a broad definition of unemployed people, including those available for work but without requiring that they actively look for jobs, due to the still developing formal employment support infrastructure.

Poverty and inequality

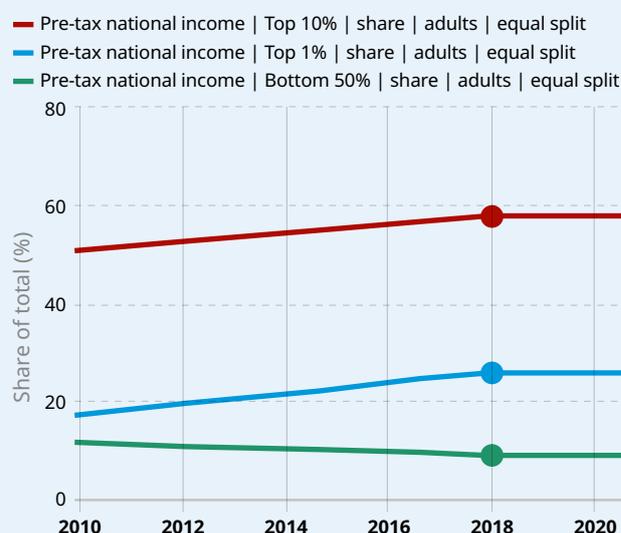
The oil-led growth model has resulted in high levels of poverty and inequality. Oil revenues were insufficiently (or ineffectively) reinvested, resulting in underdeveloped infrastructure and low human capital. The 2022 Human Development Report clearly reveals the profound impact of cross-cutting inequality in Angola on its HDI, which has been stagnating at around 0.58 since the start of the economic recession in 2016 until 2021: **when the HDI value of Angola is discounted for inequality, it falls from 0.586 to 0.407, a loss of 30.5%** due to inequality in the distribution of the HDI dimension indices (Inequality-adjusted Human Development Index, IHDI).



Angola has also a high **Gender Inequality Index** value of 0.537, ranking it 136 out of 170 countries – due to a high maternal mortality ratio and adolescent birth rate, as well as a lower female population with at least some secondary education and lower female labor force participation compared to males.

The World Inequality Database confirms the deteriorating trend in 2018 with the top 10% of the population seizing 58% of national income, compared to 49.3% in 2008, and the top 1% alone increasing its share from 15.3% in 2008 to 26% in 2018. The bottom half saw its share reduced from 12.2% in 2008 to only 9% ten years later¹⁰⁸.

FIGURE 23 Income inequality trends (2010-2020)



Source: WID

Although Angola adopted a progressive individual income tax system¹⁰⁹, total receipts in 2021 (Kz 841.28 billion) were well below receipts from Value Added Tax (Kz 1.04 trillion)¹¹⁰, having a regressive effect on the overall taxation system.

¹⁰⁸ Figures are in line with the Voluntary National Review of 2021 (GoA 2021a), showing the richest 1% of the population capturing 26% of national income in 2018/19.

¹⁰⁹ See PwC, 2022.

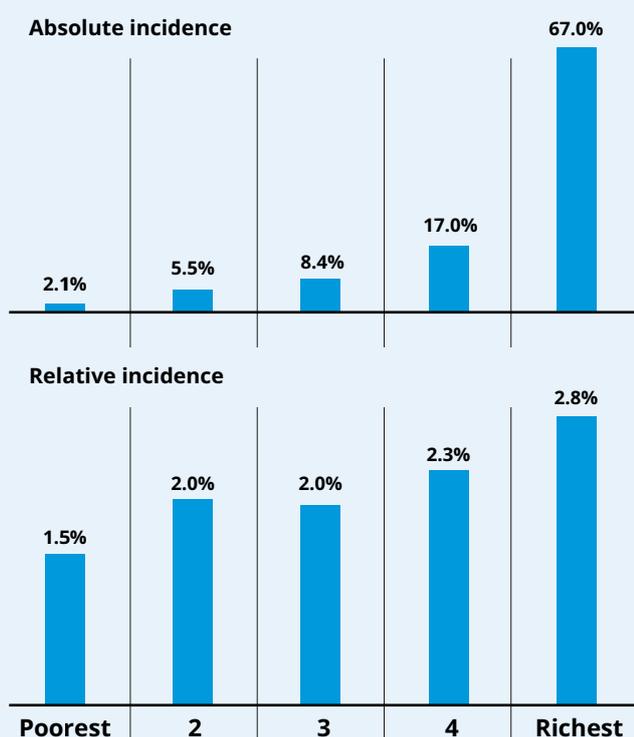
¹¹⁰ MINFIN, 2022b.

To make a comparison, in the OECD total receipts collected from VAT are on average around 20% lower than those from individual income taxes¹¹¹.

Moreover, recent evidence shows the regressive impact of certain price subsidies, which altogether accounted for around 4.4% of OGE in 2022 (Kz 820 Billion).

Fuel subsidies are highly regressive in that richer households receive considerably more subsidies than poorer ones both in absolute and relative terms. In Q1 of 2022, almost USD 570 Million was spent for subsidies to oil and gas prices¹¹².

FIGURE 24 Incidence of fuel subsidies



Source: WB elaboration

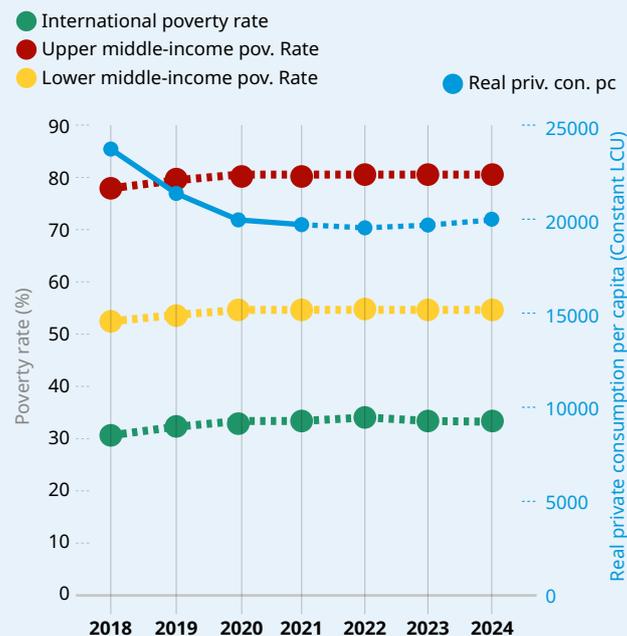
The richest 20 % of the population receive over 67 % of all fuel subsidies (as of mid-2022), meaning two thirds of government spending on fuel subsidies goes to them. The poorest 20 % receive only 2.1 % of the total. In terms of impact on incomes, the richest households obtain 2.8 % of their gross income in fuel subsidies while the poorest receive only 1.5 % of their (much lower) gross income. The significant negative environmental externality of fuel consumption (despite Angola's historically low levels of CO2 emissions) should also be taken into consideration when assessing the subsidy's equity.

However, almost every household in Angola benefits from fuel subsidies thanks to lower consumer costs (indirect effects). This makes the social impact and political economy of their removal complex.

¹¹¹ OECD, 2022.

¹¹² IGAPE, 2022.

FIGURE 25 Poverty rate (%) and real private consumption per capita (constant LCU)



Source: WB

With stagnating or declining per capita GDP levels, the poverty rate will remain largely unchanged in the coming years, if envisaged structural reforms are not undertaken with impetus. It will hence remain at around 31.1 % of the population living on less than USD 2.15 per day (2017 PPP, the updated international poverty line)¹¹³. This fact then highlights the need for the continued expansion of social protection programs, and reforms to increase productivity and employment opportunities, especially for youth and women.

However, the actual poverty rates are probably higher than the official statistics still based on old surveys. The Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) had tried to look more in-depth at the drivers of poverty, but the most recent survey data available for the country's MPI estimation refer to 2015/2016. The Multidimensional Poverty Index of Angola (MPI-A), which is the national definition of multidimensional poverty, revealed that **54.0% of the population lived in multidimensional poverty in 2015/2016**. Deprivations in health, education, water and sanitation, access to electricity and employment are among the major factors to explain multidimensional poverty, which is higher among children aged between 0 and 9 years (64.3% of the poverty rate). The multidimensional poverty rate in rural areas (87.8%) is double that in urban areas (35.0%), on average¹¹⁴. The goal of the Government of Angola is to reduce the multidimensional poverty rate by at least a half (27%) by 2030.¹¹⁵

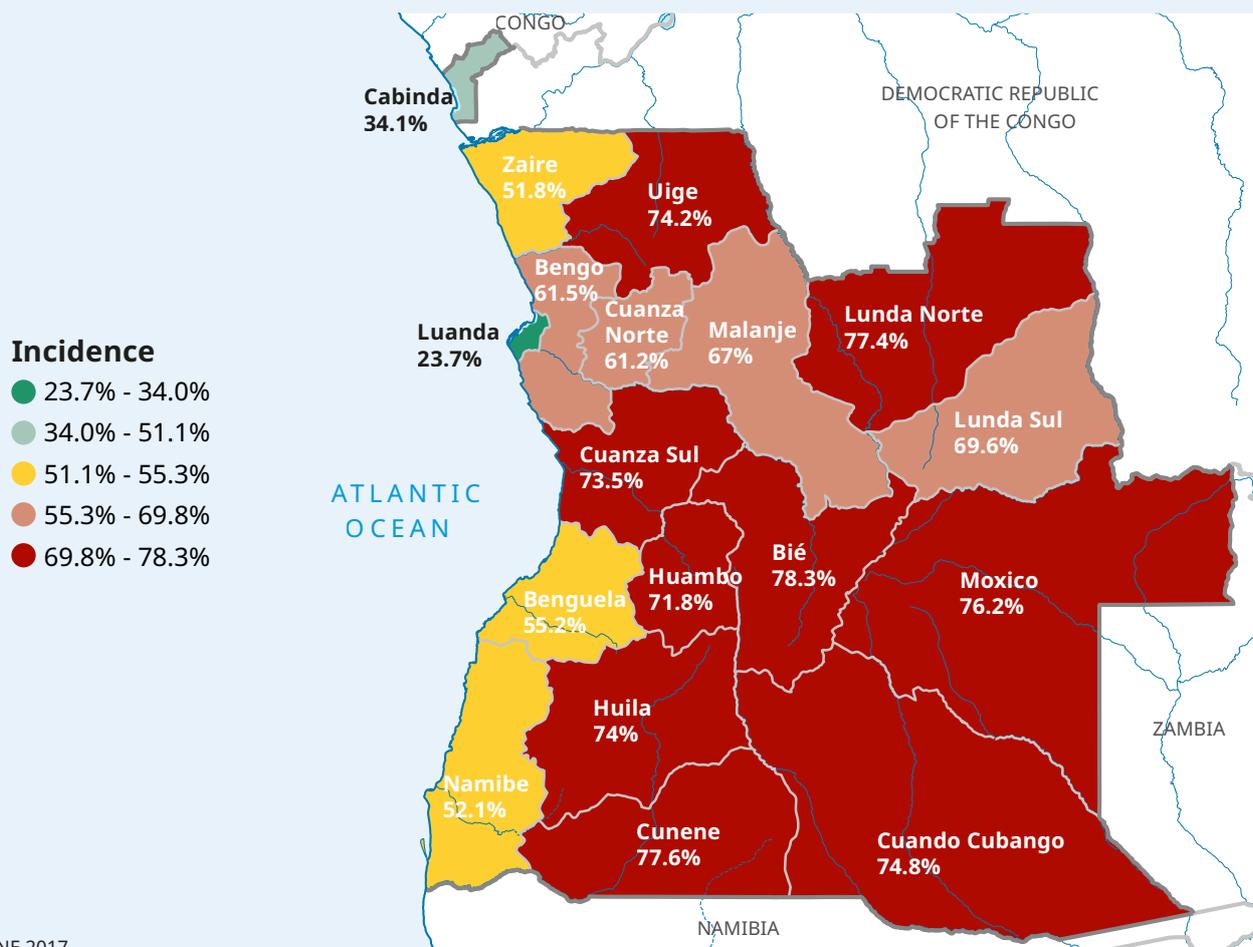


¹¹³ World Bank, 2022b.

¹¹⁴ The Multidimensional Poverty Index in the Municipalities (MPI-M) could be used as a measure to classify the poverty rate of the municipalities but no decision has been taken.

¹¹⁵ Government of Angola, 2021a.

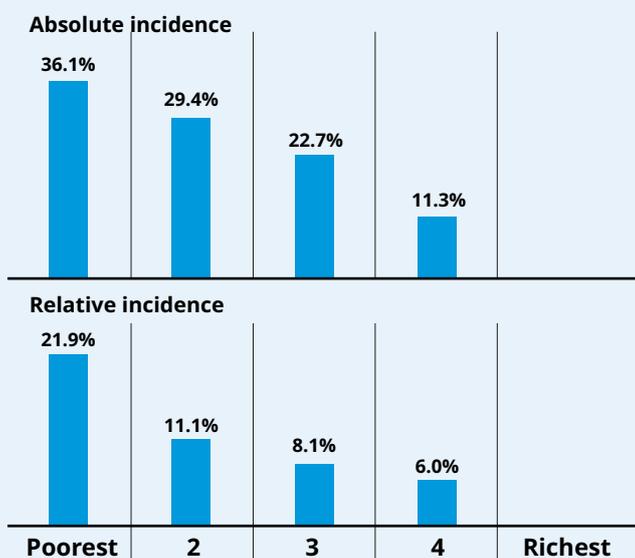
MAP 1 Multidimensional poverty incidence (2015/2016)



Source: INE 2017

As an example of potential impact from social protection programmes, the WB tried to estimate the absolute and relative incidence of the Kwenda cash transfer programme.

FIGURE 26 Incidence of Kwenda



Source: WB elaboration

The fully implemented Kwenda program¹¹⁶ has the potential to reduce the poverty rate by between 5.9 and 14.2%. The exact impact depends on the target mechanism used. This is roughly equal to 0.6 to 1.5 million people leaving poverty. The expected reduction of the poverty gap lies between 10.7 and 24.6%. The sharper decrease in the poverty gap shows that even though the transfer value may be insufficient to push some households out of poverty, it has the potential to reduce the gap between their consumption and the poverty line. After the complete rollout of the program, inequality measured by the Gini index (latest assessed at 51.3 for Angola in 2018) is expected to decrease between 0.9 and 1.2 basis points. ●

¹¹⁶ The Kwenda program is set up to run for four years, from 2020 to 2023, with a budget of USD 420 million. The beneficiary families receive monthly payments of Kz 8,500 for a period of one year. As of August 2022, some 829,500 out of the target 1.6 million poor households had been registered, especially in the poorer provinces. Almost 590,000 of these households have received at least one quarterly cash transfer, 62% of whom with a female household representative receiving the payment.

Selected opportunities

Axis III

(iii) Higher Education, (iv) Science Technology and Innovation, (v) Employment, entrepreneurship and vocational training, (vii) Culture

Axis IV

(iii) Gender equality, (vi) Youth

Axis V

(i) Telecommunications and ICT, (iv) Energy, and (vi) Environment

Axis VI

(i) Macroeconomic management, (ii) Support to national entrepreneurship and financing, (iii) Business environment, (iv) Formalization of the economy, (vii and ix) Agriculture and fisheries; (x) Industry.

- ✓ In line with the positive macro-economic scenario, another budget surplus is expected for the fiscal year 2022. This could allow Angola to both keep macroeconomic prudence, while at the same time accelerating investments in its human capital and economic infrastructure, as planned in the NDP 2023-2027 and confirmed by the significant increase of the socio-economic development envelope in the national budget for 2023.
- ✓ The iSDG model final report shows that only 5% of additional investment in human capital and productive sectors would boost overall SDGs achievement from 25% to almost 40% by 2030.
- ✓ Reforming the national taxation and price subsidies system could free significant additional resources for rebalancing public investment in the direction of a more sustainable and inclusive socio-economic development trajectory, as envisaged in the NDP 2023-2027.
- ✓ The full implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) could help boosting intra-African trade and thus promoting activity and employment in non-oil sectors in Angola. It would be crucial to complement AfCFTA implementation with improvements to trade and transport networks. Separately, the authorities should eliminate recently imposed administrative import restrictions and avoid the introduction of quantitative import restrictions on certain goods in 2022, which is under consideration.
- ✓ Investing in women education and improving their access to TVET is not only a human right per se but would yield high returns to the whole economy, with positive effects on disposable income, generating more productivity and contributing to sustainable and inclusive diversification.
- ✓ The automatic graduation of Angola from LDC in 2024 provide the GoA with an opportunity to outline a transition strategy to better make use of international cooperation to boost its efforts towards the envisaged sustainable, inclusive and private sector-led economic diversification.

Social development and exclusion

3.3

National Development Plan Intervention Domains:

✓ Axis III

(i) Health, (ii) Education, (vi) Employment, Entrepreneurship and Professional Training;

✓ Axis IV

(iii) Gender equality, (iv) Family, (v) Children, (vi) Youth

this has not materialized. However, the draft national budget for 2023 marks an important turning point, by boosting **the overall social envelope** from 19% to almost 24% and 10% of the total budget, with the shares allocated to education and health lifted to 7.7% and 6.7% from 6.6%, 4.8% respectively, while the social protection share remained stable at 3.4%.¹¹⁷ These figures are far less than the announced goal of 20% of the budget for education and 15% for health in the 2018- 2022 National Development Plan.

It is also important to note that the low investment in social sectors has implications for not only Agenda 2030, but also poverty and inequalities and importantly the realization of economic and social rights. The obligation to ensure the realisation of economic, social and cultural rights through adequate public spending is contained within key human rights treaties.¹¹⁸

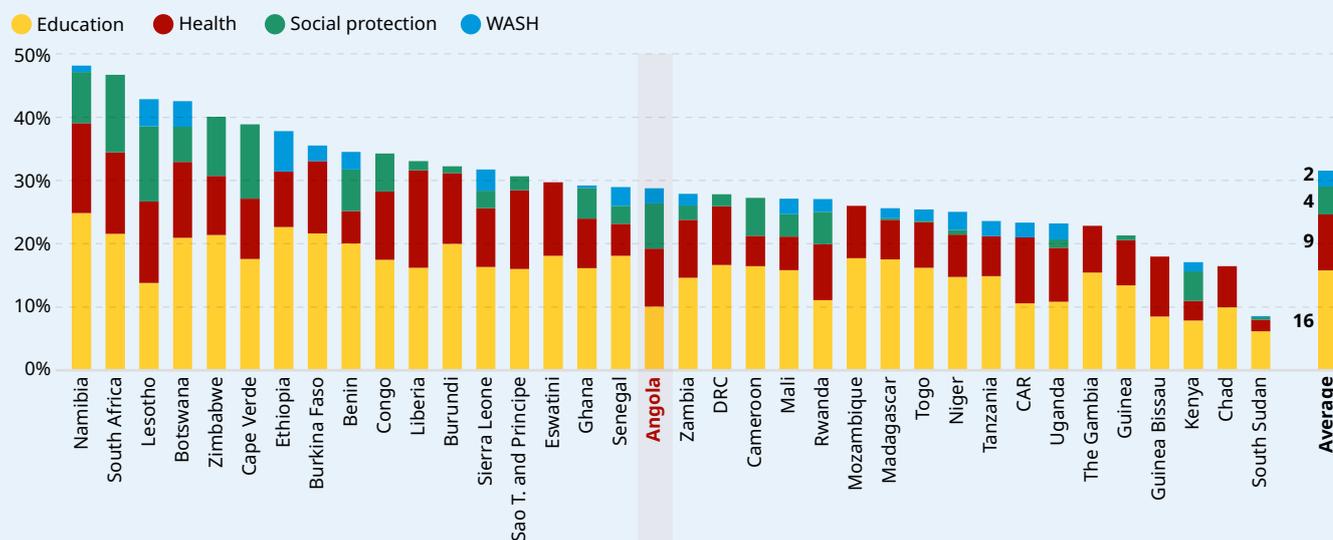
Overview

At current levels of investments, Angola's annual expenditure in the social sectors would be insufficient to reach the full target for most of the Sustainable Development Goals. Although earlier estimates placed social sector spending at close to 30% in the period of 2017-2019,

¹¹⁷ Government of Angola, 2022c.

¹¹⁸ Universal Declaration of Human Rights Art. 22; Convention on the Rights of the Child, Art 4; International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Art 11, 12, and 13. See also recommendations contained in Universal Peer Review, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and Convention on the Rights of the Child.

FIGURE 27 Planned social sector expenditure in SSA countries, 2017-19 average (as % of total expenditure)

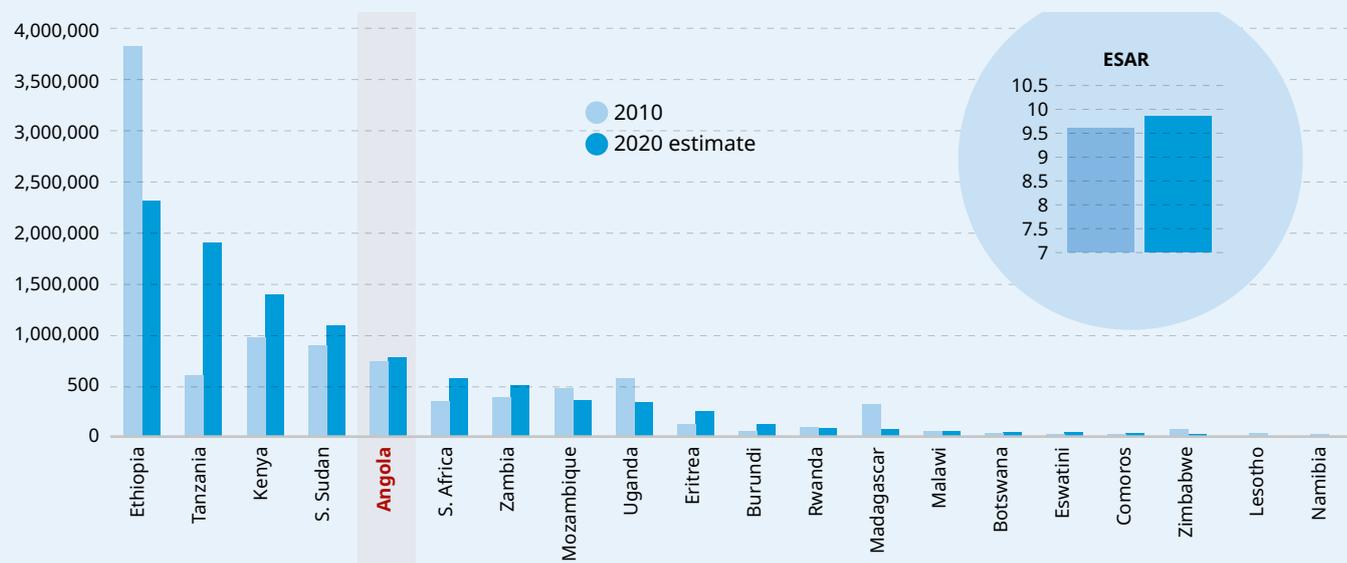


Source: UNICEF 2022

Education trends

Investments in education have not been able to keep up with demographic growth of approximately 3% a year. In spite of the increasing budget allocations to the sector, demographic growth has meant that in 2020 there were less children in primary school than in 2000, as elsewhere in the Eastern and Southern African region¹¹⁹.

FIGURE 28 Number of children in primary school (2010-2020)



Source: UNICEF

There is a need to recalculate the formula for financial allocations for education per province. There is a significant difference in the amounts allocated to each province, and the allocated budgets do not correspond to the actual needs and population of provinces. According to data compiled by UNICEF, while Cuando Cubango's allocation was approximately USD 10,000 per capita, Bengo's was 2.5 times that amount. National consultations undertaken in the context of the Transforming Education Summit in 2022 revealed that some schools need more support than others, and some areas require more investments than others.

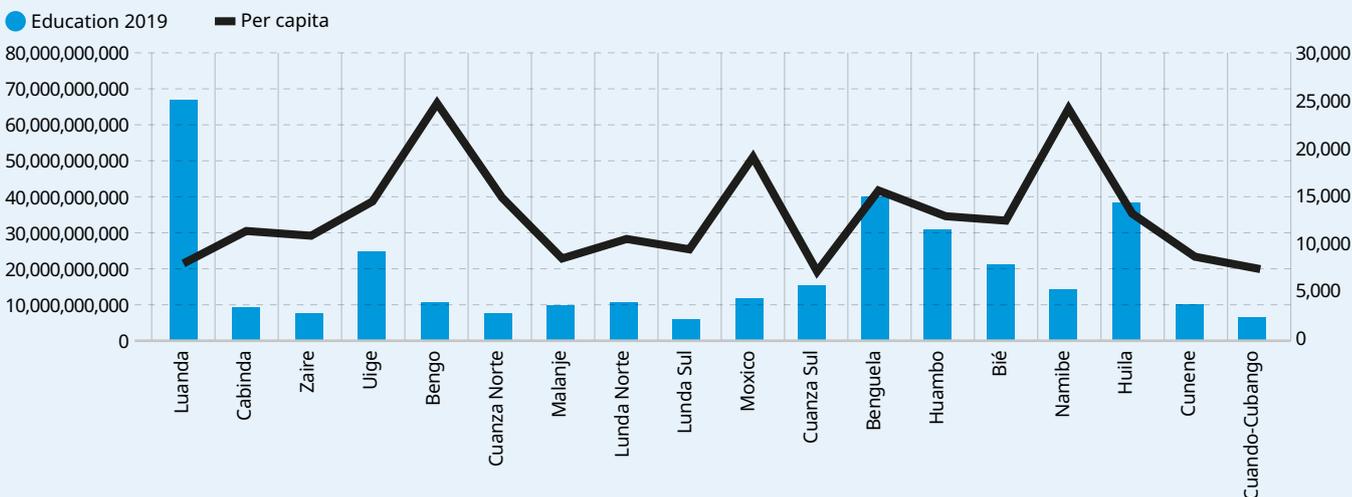
¹¹⁹ UNICEF 2022 and IMF 2021c.

Investments in infrastructure, teachers, and services were identified as priority areas by young people consulted. CEDAW has pointed out that inadequate and decreasing budget allocations to the education sector result in shortages of qualified teachers, poor learning environments and suspension of the construction of new schools, which forces girls to walk long distances to school and depriving them of adequate sanitary facilities.¹²⁰ A clear formula is therefore needed to allocate resources among and within provinces, according to number of students and local needs.¹²¹

¹²⁰ CEDAW, 2019 para 35(b).

¹²¹ Government of Angola and United Nations (2022).

FIGURE 29 Geographic distribution of education spending per province-Total and per capita (LCU)

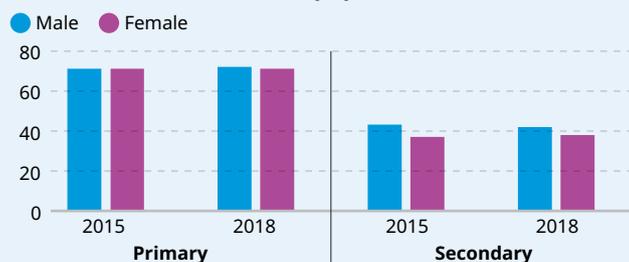


Source: World Bank 2021

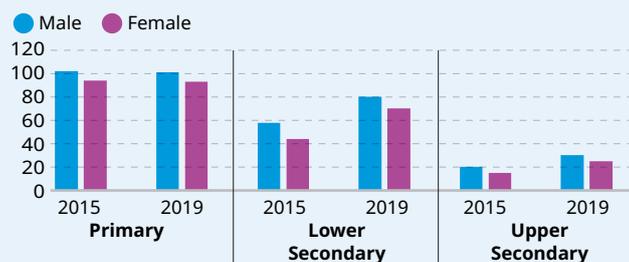
Pre-pandemic figures show a persistent gender gap as girls get older. However, this trend was inverted during the pandemic as more boys dropped out of school. Poor infrastructure in particular has been a deterrent for girls to attend secondary school as schools lack sanitary facilities, and long walking distances pose specific challenges for them.¹²² The figure below shows the gender gap in access to education in Angola at all levels. Although the figures for primary school attendance are comparable for boys and girls, differences begin to surface when looking at completion rates for primary, secondary and tertiary levels.

FIGURE 30 **Access to education**

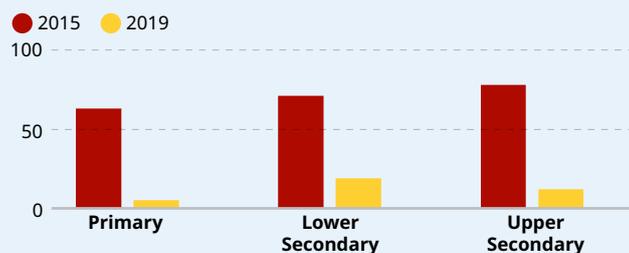
Net school attendance (%)



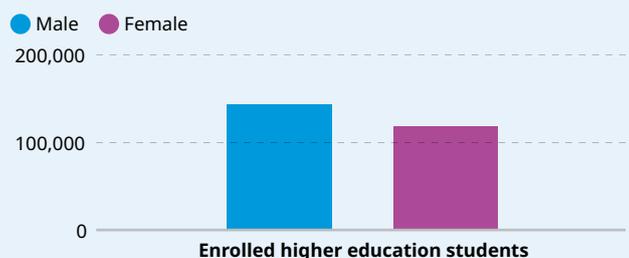
Completion rates (%)



Teachers with minimum qualifications (%)



Number of tertiary education students (2018)



Sources: INE 2017 and 2019b, GoA 2021a

Drop-out rates among boys may be due to decreasing income at household level. Prior to the pandemic, 70.5% of girls and 71.8% of Angolan boys were in school.¹²³ However due to the closing of schools during the pandemic, drop-out rates increased significantly for boys and girls alike, particularly in the capital. In Luanda, enrolment rates in primary school decreased by 23.2% (boys) and 11% (girls), while elsewhere the reduction rate was 11.6% (boys) and 8.2% (girls), 13.7% in total at national level. In secondary schools, the figures were even higher. While Luanda registered a 33% reduction rate for boys and 32% for girls, other locations suffered a decrease of 26% for boys and 15% for girls. This may be due to the availability of more job opportunities in Luanda for those who chose not to go back to school.¹²⁴

Obstacles for girls' education at secondary level

Lack of awareness of rights: There is a need to raise awareness of contraceptives and sexual and reproductive health and rights, and to decriminalise abortion.

Pregnancy: social norms lead pregnant girls to face discrimination and be expelled from school or forced to attend night school.

Gender stereotypes: Girls are responsible for domestic work such as caring for siblings and collecting wood or water.

Infrastructure: Walking long distances in rural areas and lack of sanitary facilities (e.g. separate well-equipped latrines) at schools is a hindrance for teenage girls, especially during menstrual periods.

Poverty: Girls tend to drop out of school in order to help with domestic chores work or work in the informal economy.

Cultural norms: Harmful practices/early marriage: Initiation rites and child marriage affect both boys' and girls' enrolment rates.

Source: European Union 2022

Remote schools did not work due to lack of access to e-learning platforms. The government has sought to compensate for school closures due to the COVID pandemic by investing in a virtual school targeting primary and secondary school students. However, in spite of government efforts, many children dropped out for lack of access to e-learning platforms. A report by UNCTAD noted that only 51% of households own a TV or a radio, hence many children

¹²² INE 2017 and 2019b, GoA 2021a

¹²³ Matz, 2021.

¹²⁴ Government of Angola and United Nations (2022).

do not have access to these learning platforms. Of additional concern with children out of school, is the heightened risk of them being victims of gender-based violence. In 2020, 7,283 girls reported having experienced physical, sexual or psychological violence. Based on combined data of all children, 15,000 cases of different forms of violence were reported to the National Children's Institute in 2020.¹²⁵ Moreover, Gender-based Violence is underreported in Angola due to the stigmatization of victims, fear of reprisals, legal illiteracy and lack of trust in law enforcement authorities.¹²⁶

At tertiary level, it is noteworthy that twice as many women are in private institutions compared to public ones, which reinforces a correlation between poverty and girls' education levels.¹²⁷

TABLE 8 Higher education institution per type

Higher education institution per type	Male Students	Female Students	Total	%
Public	78 087	46 669	124 756	40
Private	89 262	94 291	183 553	60
Total	167 349	140 960	308 309	100

Source: GEPE – MESCTI 2020

¹²⁵ INE, 2017 and UNICEF, 2020, quoted in UNCTAD, 2022c.

¹²⁶ United Nations Human Rights Committee, 2019 para 17(b).

¹²⁷ Government of Angola and United Nations (2022).



CEDAW Recommendations for Angola

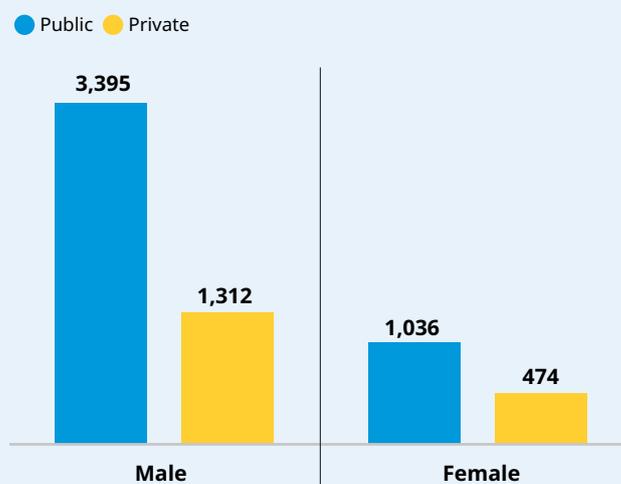
In its 2019 report, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women expressed concern about the following issues:

(a)The disproportionately high levels of illiteracy among women, in particular in rural areas; (b)The inadequate and decreasing budget allocations to the education sector, which results in shortages of qualified teachers, poor learning environments and suspension of the construction of new schools, forcing girls to walk long distances to school and depriving them of adequate sanitary facilities; (c)Delays in the completion of the revision of school textbooks and curricula and teacher training materials to remove discriminatory gender stereotypes of the roles and responsibilities of women and men; (d)The lack of comprehensive age-appropriate school curricula on sexual and reproductive health and rights; (e)The underrepresentation of girls and women in traditionally male-dominated areas of education, including technical and vocational education.

Source: OHCHR

The gender gap further increases when looking at post-graduation level:

FIGURE 31 Number of students in postgraduate education, by gender in 2020



Source: Varela 2021¹²⁸

¹²⁸ Varela, 2021.

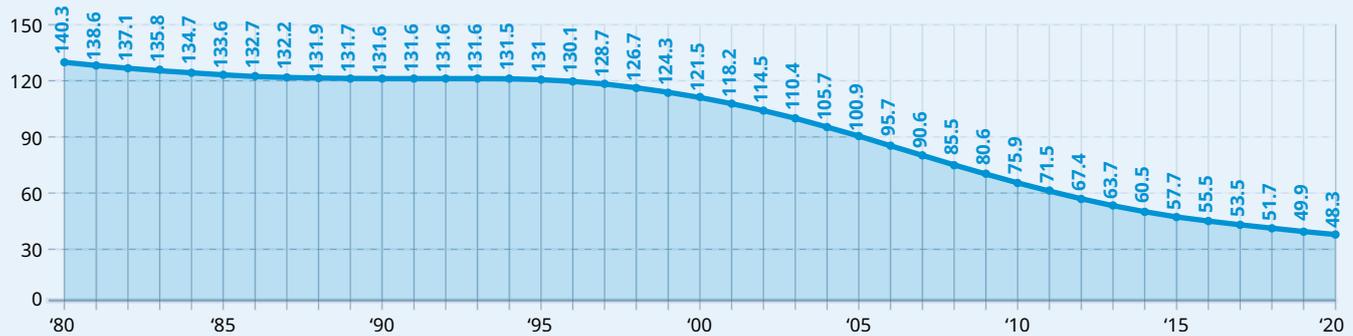
Health



Positive trends in health include a sharp decrease in infant mortality rates, which have practically halved since 2000. However, only 2.3% of GDP is allocated to the health sector, which is well below the WHO 5% benchmark and the 15% stipulated by the previous NDP and the Abuja Declaration. This translates into several negative indicators, e.g. the under 5 mortality rate at 7.2% is above the regional average; the unmet family planning rate is 43% among adolescent girls aged 15-19; this rate is lower among women between 15-49 years old (38%); a rural child is twice as likely to remain unvaccinated against the Rotavirus and PCV3.¹²⁹

It therefore emerges that there are challenges in respecting of the enjoyment of the fundamental right to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health persist,¹³⁰ and in implementing relevant recommendations made by the UN Human Rights Mechanisms.¹³¹

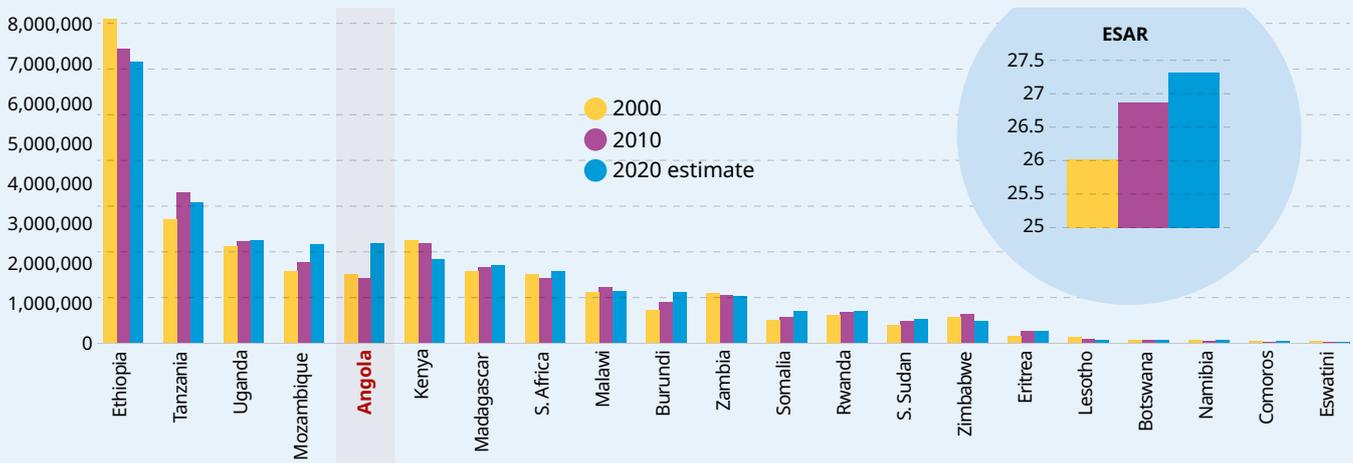
FIGURE 32 Mortality rate (per 1,000 live births) in Angola (%)



Source: INE

However, high levels of acute food insecurity in the drought affected regions, inadequate care and feeding practices, as well as limited access to safe drinking water and low infectious disease vaccination coverage, contribute to high levels of acute malnutrition.¹³² Between 2000 and 2020, the number of children impacted by stunting grew from 26.1 to 27.3 million in Angola.

FIGURE 33 Number of children impacted by stunting, 2000-2020



Source: UNICEF/WHO/World Bank and UNDESA¹³³

¹²⁹ INE, 2017.

¹³⁰ OHCHR, 1966.

¹³¹ For example, in 2018 the Committee on the Rights of the Child noted “the greater risk children born in poor households, in rural areas, or to mothers without basic education face of dying before 5 years of age; the high maternal mortality rate correlated to poor neonatal health, including the reported lack of a clear policy on the training of midwives and of insufficient quality standards for maternal and newborn care; and the low rate of full immunization coverage of children, which stands at just 31 %. The Committee is further concerned about the inadequate information on public policies concerning children’s mental health.” CRC, 2018 para 27. CEDAW has also made recommendations pertaining to the right to health, noting in 2019 the deleterious effects of criminalizing abortion in most circumstances. See CEDAW 2019, paras 39-40.

¹³² WFP Angola, 2022.

¹³³ Sources: UNICEF/WHO/World Bank, 2020 and UNDESA, 2019. Note: Interpolation and nearest neighbour imputation methods used to gap-fill missing values at the country level, where applicable.



The domestic financial allocation for family planning remains very inadequate. Family planning has positive spill-over effects for other areas as it can slow down demographic growth. However, the recent National Reproductive Health Commodities Quantification has shown that for 2022, the country would need around USD 16 million dollars only to invest in modern contraceptives, including male and female condoms.¹³⁴ However, only approximately USD 11 million dollars¹³⁵ were allocated to procure all medicines, supplies and equipment for the whole country.¹³⁶ This demonstrates the importance of maintaining fiscal space for social spending, especially for the realization of the fundamental economic and social rights that the State has committed to progressively provide for all who reside in Angola.

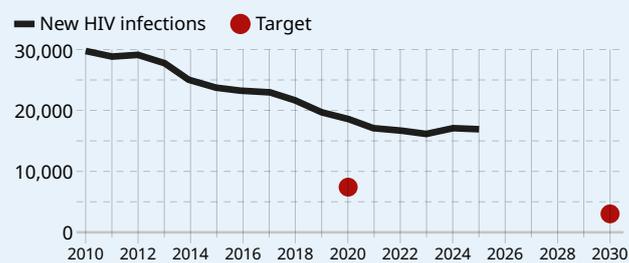
Infrastructure, procurement and supply management are still highly deficient and prevent further progress. Since 2016, Angola has had a National Strategic Plan for the Supply Chain (PNECA 2016-2021). However, it has not been validated and is by and large not being implemented. The Ministry of Health (MOH) does not have a department, unit or team in charge of the vision, leadership and implementation of a national Procurement and Supply Management (PSM) strategy. Coordination among MOH departments and IDPs involved in PSM is lacking. Mechanisms for supply management at provincial level are quasi-absent. Moreover, the execution of procurement plans in Angola are often hampered by insufficient or delayed funding. Once funding is available, the cost of health commodities to the patient remains extremely high due to the absence of a stringent Drug Regulatory Authority; non-use of TRIPS flexibilities; reliance on local importers; and adverse local currency fluctuations. Finally, Angola has 18 provincial warehouses and four regional warehouses (Benguela, Huila, Luanda, Malanje). Warehouse infrastructure is either obsolete, non-compliant with WHO good storage practices or new but non-functional. Access to an uninterrupted supply of energy for product stability and maintenance of cold chain remains problematic.

¹³⁴ This would respond to the recommendation made by CEDAW to “ensure that all women and girls, in particular those in rural areas, have access to affordable and modern forms of contraception intensify efforts to raise awareness of contraceptives and sexual and reproductive health and rights, targeting women and men...” UN CEDAW 2019, para 40(d).

¹³⁵ OGE 2022, page 273 – Dotação Orçamentária por Órgão.

¹³⁶ UNFPA, 2022.

FIGURE 34 Number of new HIV infections in Angola and global targets



Source: UNAIDS

The social determinants of health (SDH) – defined by the WHO as the non-medical factors that influence health outcomes – have an important influence on health inequities, including HIV, malaria and tuberculosis. Malaria is the primary cause of death in the country. In 2020, Angola was the fifth most-affected country in the world by number of malaria cases (estimated 8.3 million people), with over 11,000 reported malaria deaths.¹³⁷ In 2019, the malaria incidence rate was 234/1,000 population, being much higher for children under five years of age (564/1,000).¹³⁸

In 2021, there were 320 000 adults and children living with HIV in Angola. The number of new cases of HIV was estimated 17,000, compared to 20,000 in 2019. Groups particularly vulnerable and at risk of HIV include youth, pregnant women, members of the LGBTIQ+ community, displaced people, sex workers, and people who inject drugs. At national level, 43% of PLHIV received antiretroviral treatment in 2022 up from an estimated 26% in 2017, whereas in the same period only 19 % of children received treatment (up from 9 %)¹³⁹. Despite the positive development there is a need for urgent acceleration to approach the globally agreed target of 95 % treatment coverage by 2025.

Young women (15-24) have higher rates of HIV prevalence than their male counterparts. In the age group of 15-19 years, young women are 8 times more probable to acquire HIV than their young male counterparts. While there has been a 28 % reduction in new infections among adoles-

¹³⁷ WHO, 2021.

¹³⁸ GoA, 2021a.

¹³⁹ UNAIDS, 2022.

cent girls and young women since 2010, the global target by 2020 was a 75% reduction¹⁴⁰. In line with the major efforts of youth population to ensure their rights to sexual and reproductive health services, these should include effective integration of HIV prevention, testing, treatment and care programmes with a particular focus on vulnerable populations with their active engagement.

From 2017 to 2020, Angola has achieved high or very high coverage for antenatal care, but coverage remains medium to low in important areas such as family planning demand with modern methods, child immunization, child pneumonia, HIV antiretroviral therapy, insecticide-treated nets, access to at least basic sanitation, and service capacity and access.¹⁴¹ Tuberculosis (TB) remains a serious concern challenge. In 2019, the tuberculosis incidence was 237 per 100,000 population, with differences across the provinces.¹⁴² Angola is currently 18 out of the top 30 countries in the world for TB burden, 21st highest in terms of estimated incidence for multi-drug resistant (MDR)/rifampicin resistant (RR)-TB and 11th highest in terms of estimated incidence for TB/HIV.¹⁴³

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to have a damaging impact on access to TB diagnosis and treatment and the burden of TB disease. Progress made in the years up to 2019 has slowed, stalled, or reversed, and global TB targets are off track. In the particular case of Angola, COVID-19 disrupted access to diagnosis and treatment services throughout the country. According to the Global Tuberculosis Report 2020, Angola experienced negative impact in 2020, and a further decline in 2021 in relation to case notifications of people newly diagnosed with TB. In addition, the report states that sources of data available to inform estimates of TB disease burden in Angola remain absent, like a National TB Prevalence Study, National Drug Resistance and Surveillance Study and National TB Mortality Survey.¹⁴⁴

Regarding routine data, to assess the coverage of testing, treatment and viral suppression, there has been great progress in the last three years in the information system, with the adoption of integrated instruments for registration and data collection (HIV-AIDS, TB) and the use of the District Health Information Software 2 (DHIS2) platform.¹⁴⁵

TABLE 9 Scorecard on UHC service coverage index, its four components and tracer indicators by country, 2017-2020

● Very Low coverage (<20%) ● Low coverage (20-39%) ● Medium coverage (40-59%) ● High coverage (60-79%) ● Very high coverage (>=80%) ● No data

	RMNCH				Infectious diseases				Noncommunicable diseases				Service capacity and access			UHC			
	Family planning demand satisfied with modern methods	Antenatal care, 4+ visits	Child immunization (DTP3)	Care seeking behaviour for child pneumonia	RMCH Index	Tuberculosis treatment	HIV antiretroviral therapy	Insecticide-treated nets use	Access to at least basic sanitation	Infectious diseases index	Non-elevated blood pressure	Mean fasting plasma glucose	Tobacco non-use	Noncommunicable diseases index	Hospital bed density		Health worker density	International Health Regulations core capacity index	Service capacity and access index
Algeria	77	70	91	47	69	81	85		86	84	40	94	65	61	81	81	81	90	75
Angola	27	61	57	49	47	66	33	24	52	39	36	94	63	61	47	39	61	20	39
Benin	27	52	76	29	42	65	70	26	17	37	49	95	81	76	24	7	35	18	38
Botswana	80	73	95	14	54	53	87		80	71	28	73	71	53	81	24	30	41	54
Burkina Faso	53	47	91	56	60	51	72	58	22	46	50	95	78	73	22	5	44	17	43
Burundi	43	49	93	59	58	55	88	44	46	55	43	96	81	71	42	2	47	17	44
Cape Verde	76	80	96	78	83	81	99		79	85	28	61	81	52	81	52	48	63	69
Cameroon	37	65	67	30	47	53	74	60	45	54	39	69	81	62	72	5	42	24	44
CAR	33	41	42	35	38	47	58	65	14	39	32	59	81	54	56	3	17	14	32
Chad	21	31	50	26	30	60	69	16	12	29	37	95	81	67	25	2	30	11	28
Comoros	36	49	91	38	50	42	62	42	36	43	45	96	70	68	81	6	27	25	44
Congo	40	79	79	28	52	59	24	63	20	37	34	77	79	59	81	5	33	24	40
Ivory Coast	40	51	84	44	52	60	74	52	35	52	38	95	81	69	22	12	44	23	45
DRC	26	52	57	34	40	64	75	56	15	44	43	95	81	70	44	4	35	18	39
Equatorial Guinea	27	67	53	54	48	39	38	39	66	43	36	61	81	57	81	12	22	30	43
Eritrea	28	57	95	45	51	61	73	47	12	39	61	95	81	81	56	19	49	38	50
Eswatini	80	76	90	60	76	69	99		64	75	30	80	81	59	81	10	40	34	58
Ethiopia	63	43	68	30	48	71	78	22	9	32	55	95	81	80	18	4	63	17	38
Gabon	41	78	70	68	62	48	52	14	50	37	38	67	81	59	72	36	27	41	49
Gambia	38	77	88	59	62	71	31	56	47	49	38	94	81	64	56	9	38	27	48
Ghana	47	80	97	56	68	34	60	68	24	39	44	100	81	75	40	5	49	21	45
Guinea	32	35	47	69	44	73	49	60	30	51	34	95	81	67	17	3	44	13	37
Guinea-Bissau	49	80	78	48	62	35	59	35	18	31	37	95	81	69	56	2	25	14	37

Source: iAHO /WHO 2022a

¹⁴⁰ Idem.

¹⁴¹ iAHO /WHO, 2022a.

¹⁴² GoA, 2021a.

¹⁴³ UNDP, 2022a.

¹⁴⁴ WHO, 2022a.

¹⁴⁵ Ibid.

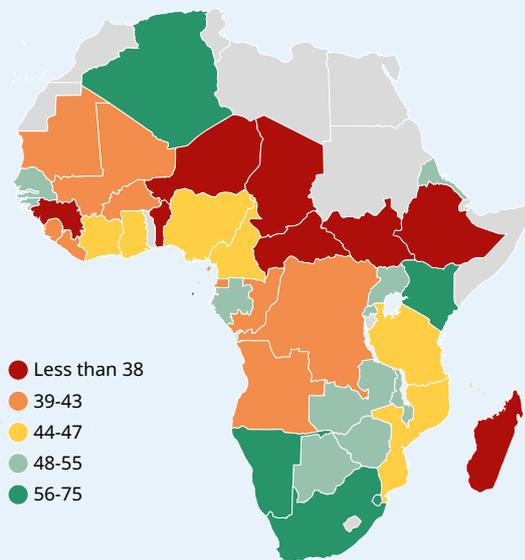
However, people with HIV and Tuberculosis still suffer from stigma within families, communities and health facilities reported by patients, and in particular key and vulnerable populations, may help explain treatment drop-out rates. The figure below shows a scorecard of Universal Health Care (UHC) service coverage according to reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health (RMNCH), infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases, and service capacity and access, for Angola and a sample of other countries in the region.

While Angola has made progress in Universal Health Care (UHC) since 2000, challenges remain. According to WHO, the regional population weighted UHC service coverage index was 46 in 2019, up from 24 in 2000. Thirteen countries had a UHC Service Coverage Index (SCI) of under 20 in 2000, with only three countries with a UHC SCI above 40 then. The UHC SCI is constructed from 14 indicators, extracted from various sources and organized around four components of service coverage, as follows: 1) Reproductive, maternal, new-

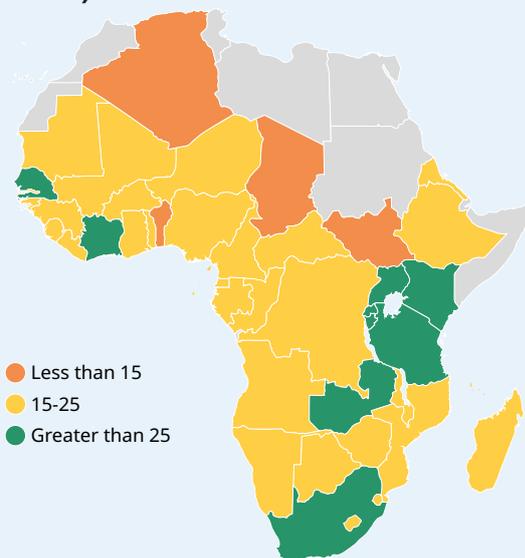
born, and child health (RMNCH); 2) Infectious diseases; 3) Noncommunicable diseases (NCDs); and 4) service capacity and access. However, Angola's SCI is between 39 and 43 in 2019, placing it in the lower range among other countries in the region. ¹⁴⁶

Out of pocket expenses for health have placed a high burden on Angolan households. Angola has maintained a position as one of the countries in the region with the highest catastrophic health spending¹⁴⁷, with increases in over 0.1% a year both at the 10% threshold of household budget OOP and at the 25% ¹⁴⁸. which indicates that UHC falls short of meeting existing needs, with consequences for expenditure on other essential items.

MAP 2 Angola UHC SCI, 2019

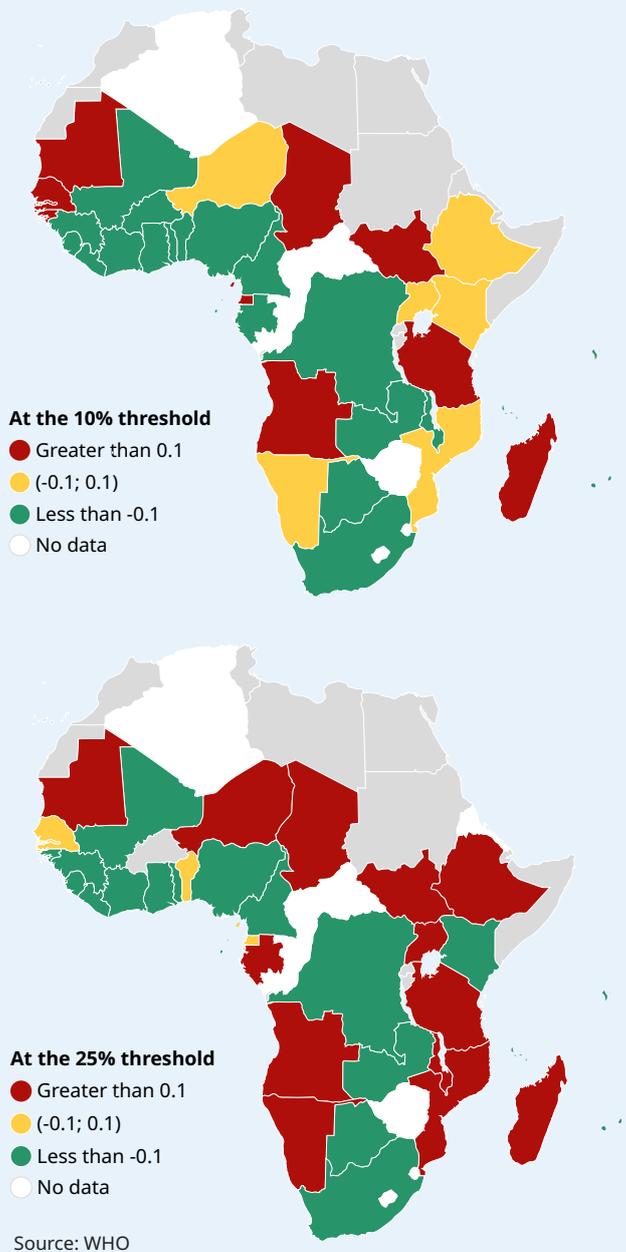


MAP 3 Change in UHC SCI (in index points, 2000-2019)



Source: WHO

MAP 4 Average percentage point change in the incidence of catastrophic health spending



¹⁴⁶ WHO, 2022b.

¹⁴⁷ The proportion of the population spending more than 10% of their household budget on health OOP.

¹⁴⁸ WHO, 2022b.

Lack of progress in this area may reflect the inability of the health sector to keep up with population growth, while planned health expenditure in the sector in Angola remained below the minimum estimated investment required of USD 86 per capita in 2020.

FIGURE 35 Planned health expenditure per capita in SSA countries, 2020 estimates (in current US\$)



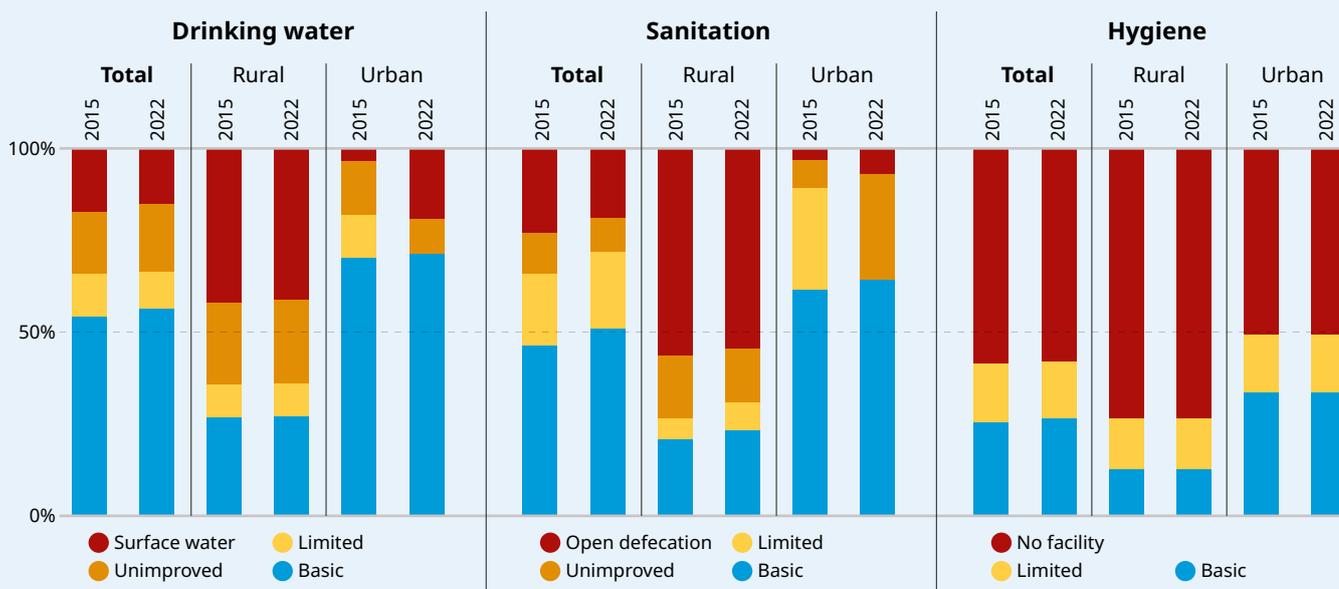
Source: UNICEF 2022

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)



WASH indicators have registered an improvement from 2015-2020 but the urban-rural divide remains stark. While urban households have seen marked progress in both drinking water, sanitation and hygiene indicators, rural households have experienced little or no change over the past five years. This is likely to have impacted health indicators as well.¹⁴⁹ For instance, diarrhoea remains among the major killers in Angola as a consequence of poor WASH conditions, with estimated almost 13,000 deaths in 2019, hitting especially children under 5 (more than 7,000 in 2019)¹⁵⁰.

FIGURE 36 WASH coverage data for Angola (%)



Source: UNICEF

¹⁴⁹ UNICEF, 2021a.

¹⁵⁰ GBD, 2019.

WASH and Climate Change

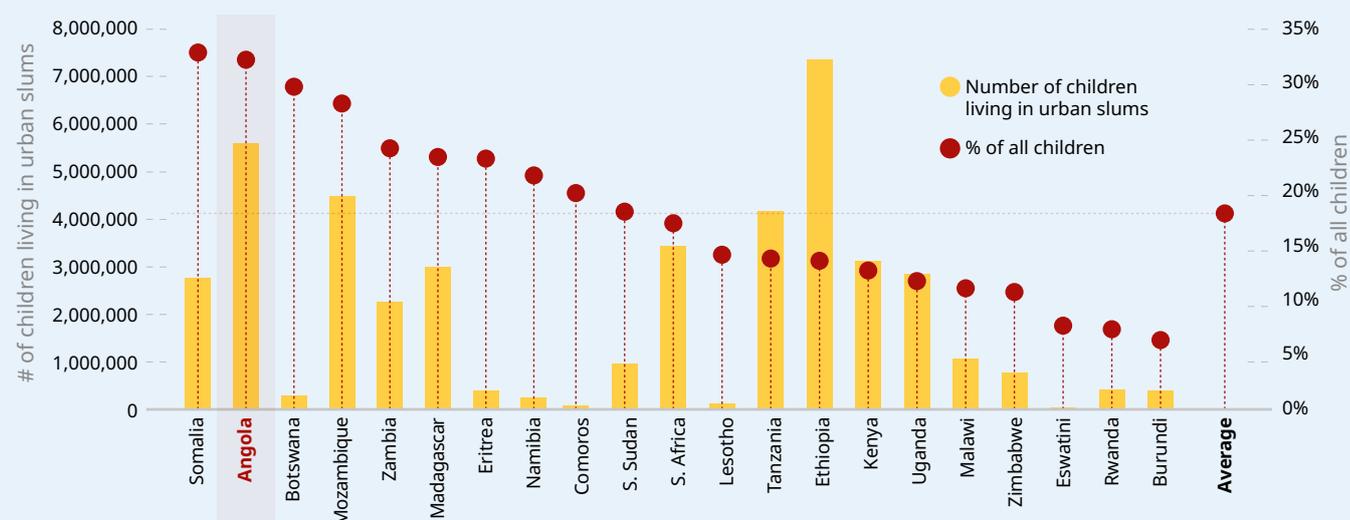
Climate change has a major impact on WASH, with different effects for specific groups. Although a differentiated impact in terms of gender is not identified, especially in peri-urban areas, the same cannot be said about the age aspect: the elderly and children suffer more intensely the consequences of droughts and floods. Cunene, Bie and Cubango are considered to be the most affected, especially by droughts, since these disasters directly affect their livelihoods (livestock, animals, crops, etc.). Civil servants and informal workers may also be affected disproportionately due to the nature of their work.

Both surface and underground water sources are impacted by droughts and floods; while droughts directly affect the water quality in rivers, lakes, and springs, floods decrease the quantity of water in the groundwater, as the recharge rate decreases. The occurrence of floods brings negative effects on other types of infrastructure, such as roads, communication lines and electricity. Although these are not part of the WASH infrastructure, their malfunction brings serious consequences on services. Without electricity, for example, drinking water and wastewater treatment can no longer be carried out. The physical access to certain areas, via roads, depends on the supply of various communities. In this sense, the WASH sector is impacted when other important sectors are. The table below shows how climate change hazards interact with exposure and vulnerability, affecting WASH in urban and rural areas.

Source: UNICEF Risk Informed WASH BAT Workshop Report. November 2021.

In 2021, only 12.4% of the urban population in Angola can afford the cheapest housing unit offered in the formal market (USD 12,732), which means that almost 90% of the population had to resort to informal practices to access shelter¹⁵¹ and cannot access the fundamental right to adequate housing.¹⁵² Among urban dwellers, 62.3% have access to basic sanitation services in 2022, with Luanda's households accounting for the highest access rates (72%). Luanda also has the greatest number of people in need of basic urban services. Over half (51%) of all urban households have access to piped water supply and 23% have access on their premises.¹⁵³ Household surveys show that peri-urban populations are three to five times less likely to be connected to piped water and even less likely to have access to basic sanitation services. However, many urban dwellers are still without adequate municipal services.¹⁵⁴ In 2020, Angola had the second highest percentage of children living in slums in Africa, behind Ethiopia.¹⁵⁵

FIGURE 37 Number of children living in slums in ESAR



Source: UNICEF

¹⁵¹ Center for Affordable Housing in Africa, 2021.

¹⁵² Article 11 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR). See also HRC, 2007.

¹⁵³ Cordoba, L., Luis, A., Da Costa, L. and Fenwick, C., 2021.

¹⁵⁴ Idem pg. 13

¹⁵⁵ UNICEF ESARO, 2022.

The urban population is projected to increase exponentially. The urban share of the population has grown from 37% in 1990 to 67% in 2020. By 2050, 80% of the population is expected to live in urban areas.¹⁵⁶ Given the high prices of housing, many can be expected to live in informal settlements (musseques), overburdening the demand for local services.

Social Protection



Angola needs to step up its efforts in order to achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable by 2030. Social security is a fundamental human right guaranteed in the ICESCR, which was ratified by Angola.

There is therefore a duty on the State to “progressively realize” this right for everyone¹⁵⁷. In Angola, less than 20% of the population is covered by social protection programs, lagging behind the average of the rest of the Southern African region, which stands at 46%. Gender coverage inequality is also a common feature, due to women’s participation mostly in the informal economy work, prevailing gaps in maternity protection, and with no unemployment benefit. Access to food subsidies, maternity allowances and credits is conditional on engagement in the formal employment sector¹⁵⁸. In addition, recent years have marked a decline in coverage for children, leading to the increase of child labor¹⁵⁹.

With a large proportion of women employed in the informal sector (90%) it is therefore not surprising that more than two thirds (67%) of those benefitting from retirement pensions are men¹⁶⁰, with several types of other socio-economic gender implications, such as lack of paid maternity leave, that need to be further investigated.



TABLE 10 Coverage of social protection in Angola

		2020	2021	Source
Compulsory Social protection (7.4% of the population)¹⁶¹	Contributors		184,180	INSS, 2021
	Insured		2,088,833	INSS, 2021
	Pensioners		165,987	INSS, 2021
All social protection	Urban	45%		World Bank ¹⁶²
	Rural	15%		World Bank
Retirement pensions	Share of women over total		32.9%	INSS, 2021
	Share of men over total		67.1%	INSS, 2021

Source: GEPE – MESCTI 2020

¹⁵⁶ DESA, 2020 and DESA, 2018.

¹⁵⁷ Article 9 of ICESCR: The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right of everyone to social security, including social insurance.

¹⁵⁸ CEDAW, 2019 para 37(b).

¹⁵⁹ United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child, Concluding observations on the combined fifth to seventh periodic reports of Angola CRC/C/AGO/CO/5-7 (2018) para 35.

¹⁶⁰ INSS, 2021. INSS (2021) Administrative data, 2021.

¹⁶¹ Estimate considering INE’s projection of the population in 2020 (31,127,674). INE, 2020a.

¹⁶² World Bank, 2020a.



On the other hand, Angola has been seeking to adhere to international social protection standards through cash transfer programs such as Valor Criança and Kwen-da. Since 2018, resources have been allocated to address needs related to families and children, older persons, housing, unemployment, illness and disability, social protection research and development, and other services.

According to the PDN 2018-2022, Angola was supposed to achieve 40% of compulsory social protection coverage for the economically active population by 2022. Access to food subsidies, maternity allowances and credits is conditional on engagement in the formal employment sector.¹⁶³ In addition, recent years have marked a decline in coverage for children, leading to the increase of child labor.¹⁶⁴ The coverage gaps result from common issues, such as underinvestment in social protection in the broader African region, with average expenditure below 6% of GDP.¹⁶⁵

In the draft national budget for 2023, the government allocated 1.1% of GDP to social protection, or 3.4% of total budget expenditure, below the Sub-Saharan African average of 2.1% of GDP in 2020¹⁶⁶. Social protection is the only social sector which did not increase its relative share over total budget.

The ILO estimates that in low-income, lower middle-income and middle-income countries, a social protection floor package, excluding health, would cost on average 2.4 % of their GDP. There has been a slight increase in the total social protection budget from 2018 to 2022, albeit with a very uneven distribution. While the budget for “Other social protection services” (assumed to be programs focusing on ex-military and veteran benefits) has almost doubled and the budget line for “Housing” has increased exponentially, budgets for “survival”, “family and childhood”, “illness and disability” and “old age” were severely cut.¹⁶⁷

TABLE 11 Social Protection spending in Angola (nominal Kz)

	2018	2019	2022	2021	2022
Family and childhood	15,916	7,625	2,354	5,591	9,210
Old age	263,867	388,596	797	1,432	2,701
Housing	-	-	813	287	24,829
Survivor	82,711	66,678	10,101	16,830	44,688
Unemployment	-	-	-	14	-
Disease and disability	2,905	1,419	86	44	87
Research and development in social protection	41	51,767	-	-	-
Other social protection services	255,771	516,086	408,578	536,855	557,679
Total	621,210	1,032,171	422,729	561,052	639,194

Source: Ministry of Finance

¹⁶³ CEDAW, 2019 para 37(b).

¹⁶⁴ OHCHR, 2018 para 35.

¹⁶⁵ ILO, 2022.

¹⁶⁶ Ibid.320

¹⁶⁷ Ibid.

The social protection system does not address the urban-rural divide or gender inequalities. As a result, social protection has had limited impact, particularly amongst women and those living within rural areas. The tables below¹⁶⁸ illustrate the consolidated analysis of the current social protection in Angola, in terms of coverage by total population and disaggregation by vulnerable groups, as follows:

TABLE 12

Comparative consolidation of beneficiaries and insured persons from Contributory & Non-contributory Social Protection Schemes				
Type	Institution	Programs	Number of	% of the total population 2021 (32.097.671)
Compulsory Social Protection	INSS - Insured	Regimes	2,130,287	6.637
	INSS - Beneficiaries		193,394	0.603
Basic Social Protection	MASFAMU	“Valor Criança”	18,069	0.056
		“Apoio a Deficiência”	1,159	0.004
	FAS	“Kwenda”	631,034	1.966
	MINAGRIF	“Melhoria de Segurança Alimentar”	116,135	0.362
	MAPTSS	PAPE	46,990	0.146
Subtotal Basic Social Protection			813,387	2.534
Total Coverage			3,950,455	12,308

TABLE 13

Population Group	Estimated Size of the Group	% Non-Contributory Social Protection Coverage
Poor Families	16.808.943,96	5.09
Women	16.444.380	5.20
Children (0-4)	5.155.975	0.09
Elderly (60 years +)	1.212.149	7.06

Source: ILO 2022

¹⁶⁸ Please consult the List of Acronyms for the full name of the listed institutions.

Selected opportunities

Axis III

Health, (ii) Education, (vi) Employment, Entrepreneurship and Professional Training;

Axis IV

(iii) Gender equality, (iv) Family, (v) Children, (vi) Youth

- ✓ According to the modelling results shown in the iSDG report, investments in health, education and WASH have spillover effects for all SDGs. Data simulations made by the Millennium Institute point out that there are significant opportunities to improve social development, with positive spill-over effects for poverty reduction and employment.
- ✓ Additional investments in education, especially in the secondary and tertiary levels, improve the proportion of the population who have enrolled and completed these levels. This has positive effects on disposable income, generating more productivity. In the long run, these dynamics generate more resources for education, with improvements for the literacy rate and gender equality.
- ✓ Social programmes, particularly those that contribute to infrastructure and family planning, can yield the greatest contribution to the achievement of SDG 3. WASH investments also play an important role as better water access decreases the under 5 mortality rate by approximately 7%. When combined with resource allocation on other social areas, investments in WASH will reduce the under 5 mortality rate by up to 20%
- ✓ Investments in Health and Climate Change Adaptation can make a significant contribution to poverty reduction. Healthy children and youth are able to attend school and increase their chances of employment later. When their families are healthy, women and men can spend more time in productive activities and paid employment. Investments in climate change adaptation reduce the impact of natural disasters and the economic consequences for households. Adaptation initiatives also improve WASH indicators and by consequence reduce the prevalence of vector-borne diseases, and other diseases resulting from floods spreading contaminated water
- ✓ A combination of investments in WASH, Education and Health produces the greatest effect for the achievement of all SDGs. Investments in education provide the greatest return on investment for sustainable development, as they affect almost all SDGs positively. Investments in health provide the second highest return on investment.
- ✓ In 2022, Angola joined the Global Alliance to end AIDS in children by 2030 which provides an opportunity to accelerate this effort alongside the “Free to shine” campaign led by the First Lady.

Environment and climate change

3.4

Overview



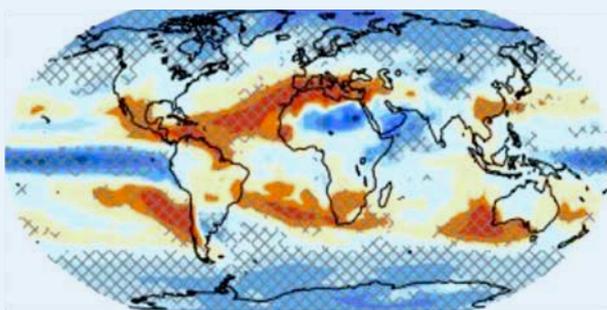
According to the World Meteorological Organization, there is a 50:50 chance of average global temperatures reaching 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels in until 2027, and the likelihood is increasing with time.¹⁶⁹ This will exacerbate current climate change impacts, leading to prolonged drought periods as well as more frequent extreme weather events.

National Development Plan Intervention Domains:

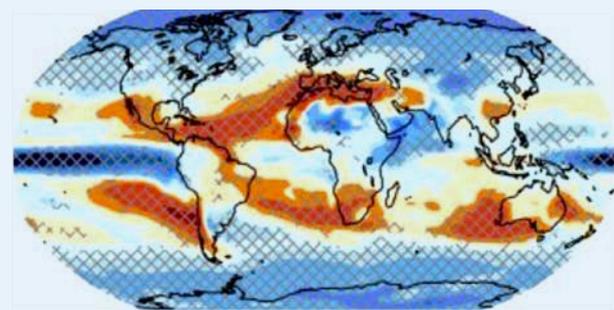
- ✓ **Axis V**
(iv) Energy, (v) Water, (vi) Environment
- ✓ **Axis VI**
(vii) Agriculture and Livestock, (viii) Forests

MAP 5, 6

Mean precipitation change at 1.5°C GMST warming



Mean precipitation change at 2.0°C GMST warming



Source: IPCC

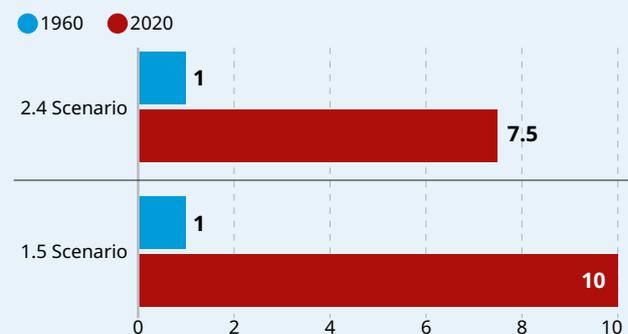


Angola is the 49th most vulnerable country to climate change and the 15th least prepared to fight its effects and consequences, out of a total of 181 countries analyzed in 2019¹⁷⁰. Current projected trends by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) indicate decreases in annual rainfall in the north and south of Angola, and an increase on the central coast. A decrease is expected in the driest months, extending the dry season from April to October. However, maximum daily rainfall is expected to increase in all of the Angolan territory, but more so in the coastal zone. In the south, although precipitation episodes are expected to decrease, they will become more intense, making flooding more likely.¹⁷¹

The IPCC estimates that children born in Angola in 2020 will experience 7-8 times more heatwaves in their lifetime under a 1.5 global mean surface temperature (GMST) scenario, than those born in 1960. In a scenario of 2.4 GMST, this rate in-

creases to more than 10 heatwaves in a lifetime.¹⁷² This has many consequences on different levels, with the main ones affecting food security/agriculture and the fisheries sectors.¹⁷³

FIGURE 38 Number of heatwaves in a lifetime for persons born 1960 and 2020 in Angola, under 1.5 and 2.4 scenarios



Source: IPCC

¹⁶⁹ UN News, 2022.

¹⁷⁰ ND-GAIN, 2020.

¹⁷¹ IPCC, 2020.

¹⁷² IPCC, 2020.

¹⁷³ Ibid.

Mitigating Climate Change

Energy



Less than half the population in Angola has access to electricity (42.7%)¹⁷⁴. This percentage is considerably higher in urban areas (73%) compared to rural areas where less than 10% of people have access.¹⁷⁵ By

December 2021 the price of electricity to households was reportedly Kz 11.83/kWh (USD 0.028/kWh) and Kz 9.64/kWh (USD 0.023/kWh) for businesses. This still placed Angola among the 15 countries with the lowest tariffs in the world.¹⁷⁶

Approximately half of the Angolan population (50.2% in 2020) has access to clean fuels and technologies for cooking¹⁷⁷ making it one of the highest shares of access to clean cooking in sub-Saharan Africa. This is largely ascribed to government policies supporting LPG and natural gas.¹⁷⁸

The current energy access percentage is up from 48% in 2018 as reported by RISE using data sourced from the World Health Organization.¹⁷⁹ World Bank trends show a steady annual increase over the last two decades. Current policy and interventions are expected to see this percentage grow to 58% by 2030, while the IEA suggests that 90% of the projected population (45 million) in 2030 can be reached by adapting access policies to rural conditions.¹⁸⁰

Angola is a country rich with renewable energy resources, and in particular solar energy holds strong potential. According to the Atlas and National Strategy for the New Renewable Energies, solar insolation varies between 1,350 hours/year and 2,070 hours/year. This means that Angola is well positioned for investing in solar PV technology.¹⁸¹ Electrification using solar energy provides an opportunity to improve electrification rates in rural areas, through off-grid solutions and to increase energy security and reduce carbon emissions, essentially also supporting Angola's contributions to mitigate climate change under the UNFCCC.

Angola's NDC noted that combustible firewood continues to be the most common form of energy in rural Angola for heating and cooking. This has contributed to deforestation mainly around the periphery of small towns and villages,¹⁸² up from 48% in 2018 as reported by RISE, using data sourced from the World Health Organization. World Bank trends show a steady annual increase over the last two decades. Among disasters, fires still account

¹⁷⁴ GoA, 2021a.

¹⁷⁵ World Bank Open Data, 2022.

¹⁷⁶ Global Petrol Prices, 2022.

¹⁷⁷ World Bank Open Data, 2022.

¹⁷⁸ IEA, 2019.

¹⁷⁹ RISE (Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy) scores reflect a snapshot of a country's policies and regulations in the energy sector, organized by the three pillars of sustainable energy: Energy Access, Energy Efficiency, and Renewable Energy. For more information, see <https://rise.esmap.org/country/angola>

¹⁸⁰ IEA, 2019.

¹⁸¹ African Power Platform, 2015.

¹⁸² GoA, 2021b.

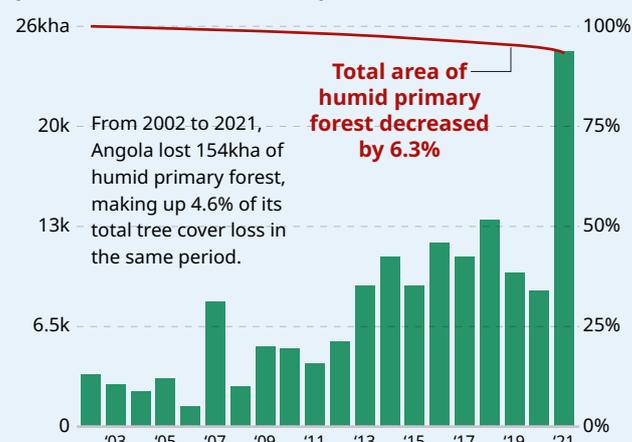
for the majority of deaths (31%) in 2021, followed by floods (22%).¹⁸³ The phenomenon of *queimadas* (voluntary fires in the rural areas) is receiving increasing attention lately in the media as several children are victims of these fires every year.¹⁸⁴

Deforestation

Angola's Second National Communication (2021) on Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions reports that the Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) sector accounted for 70% of emissions at the national level in 2015, followed by the energy sector, with 18% of emissions.¹⁸⁵ The proportion of land that is degraded over total land area is significant at above 20% and woody biomass and charcoal continue to be one of the most used forms of energy in rural and urban Angola, representing an income generation in rural areas.¹⁸⁶ However, the current lack of regulation of this sector generates serious environmental problems through uncontrolled deforestation. The demographic transformation of the country and associated human activities significantly affect land use and land transformation, leading, among others, to human-animal conflicts, deforestation and soil degradation, increased vulnerability to natural disasters, and the extinction of species and loss of biodiversity.



FIGURE 39 Forest cover loss in Angola (thousands of hectares)



Source: Global Forest Watch

According to Global Forest Watch, in 2010, forests covered 43% of the Angolan land area totalling 5.3 million hectares (Mha). However, deforestation has since increased dramatically. From 2002 to 2021, Angola lost 154,000 ha of humid primary forest and in 2019 alone, 298,000 ha of tree cover were lost, corresponding to 119 Mt of CO₂ emissions.¹⁸⁷ While in 2020, the Angolan forest area as a proportion of total land area was 53.43% (66.61 Mha of forest),¹⁸⁸ in the same year, FAO forest study carried out in

¹⁸³ UNDRR, 2021.

¹⁸⁴ Portal de Angola, 2018.

¹⁸⁵ GoA, 2021b.

¹⁸⁶ MINAMB, 2018.

¹⁸⁷ Global Forest Watch, 2022.

¹⁸⁸ FAO, 2020.

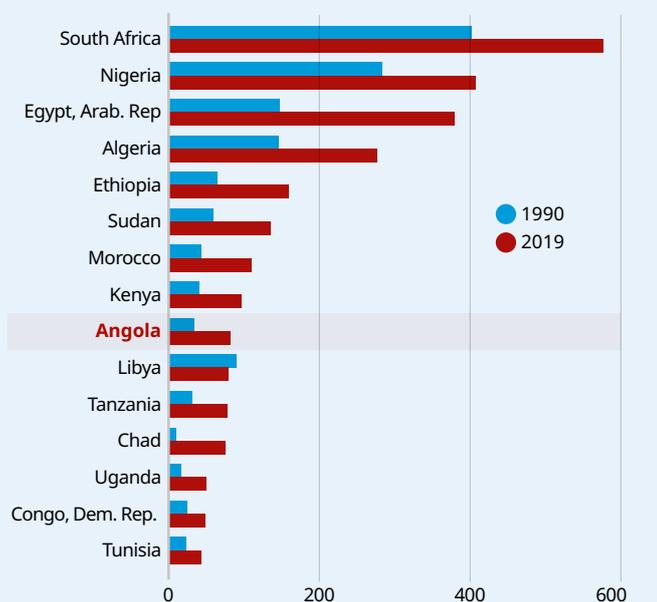
235 countries, indicated that Angola is the fourth country with the highest annual net forest loss (difference between forest created and destroyed) in the last decade (2010-2020), losing 555,000 hectares on average every year.¹⁸⁹

CO₂ Emissions

Deforestation makes Angola is the second emitter of CO₂ emissions as a result of forest fires in sub-Saharan Africa, behind the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

In May 2022 alone, over 21,3000 *queimadas* (forest fires) were registered, representing an average of 710 fires per day. Fires have been traditionally used as a method to clear land for agriculture, but food insecurity has caused them to increase exponentially in the last decade as fires may make it easier to catch small animals and charcoal, which are a source of income.¹⁹⁰

FIGURE 40 GHG Emissions for selected countries (Million Tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent)



Source: IPCC

The Need to adapt to Climate Change

Drought, food security and agriculture



In 2021/2022, the rainy season was characterized by below-average rainfall in the first three months, from October to December 2021, mainly in the provinces of Namibe, Huila, Cunene, Cuando Cubango,

and the southwestern region of Benguela province, where the precipitation remained at 80% of average. In the following two months, January and February 2022, there were improvements in precipitation in the provinces of Namibe, Benguela, and the Northwestern region of Cuan-do Cubango, while some regions of the provinces of Zaire, Bengo, Luanda, and the Southeastern region of Cuando

Cubango received 40% to 80% of average rainfall. In March and April 2022, southwestern Angola again experienced rainfall shortages.¹⁹¹

In 2022, 6.8 million Angolans suffered from chronic food hunger, while 1.6 million were classified as suffering from acute hunger, measured by indicators such as household food consumption, livelihood behaviors, child nutritional status mortality, access to clean drinking water, and other contextual factors.

The latest available data indicates that while the prevalence of undernourishment has decreased considerably in the last two decades (from 52.2% in 2004-2006 to 20.8% in 2019-2021), the prevalence of severe food insecurity grew from 21% in 20014-2016 to 30.4% in 2019-2021.¹⁹²

Recommendations of the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) to Angola (2016)

47. The Committee commends the State party for having halved the number of persons living in hunger in 2013. It remains concerned, however, about the prevalence of under- and malnutrition in the State party. The Committee is also concerned about the lack of related disaggregated data (art. 11).

48. The Committee recommends that the State party adopt a framework law on the right to food. It also recommends that the State party effectively address the remaining challenges to the enjoyment of the right to food, including by fully implementing the 2009 National Strategy for Food and Nutrition Security and ensuring adequate representation of civil society actors in the bodies established to guide and monitor the Strategy. The Committee also recommends that the State party collect disaggregated data on the prevalence of hunger and under- and malnutrition, including by sex, age, urban/rural area and origin. The Committee refers the State party to its general comment No. 12 (1999) on the right to adequate food and to the Voluntary Guidelines to support the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security adopted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

Source: OHCHR

¹⁸⁹ Ibid.

¹⁹⁰ RNA, 2022.

¹⁹¹ WFP, 2022a.

¹⁹² FAO, 2022b.

Gender, climate change and agriculture

Commercial agriculture production and cattle rearing are the responsibility of men, while women are in charge of food crop cultivation. Men are involved in land preparation and mechanization and irrigation crops. They may own and trade large animals such as cattle, and are responsible for cutting, hauling, selling timber from forests and may also work in mining and carpentry. Women are responsible for raising children, preparing food, keeping poultry and goats, collecting fuel wood and water, providing labor for tillage planting, weeding, harvesting, fetching forest wood gathering and harvesting crops. They also spend time processing food for home consumption and for sale.

Women may earn some income by selling vegetables and forest products (firewood, charcoal, wild fruits). The income is spent on manufactured products, family food needs and on the education of children. Officially women have equal land rights to men, but customary law typically overrides civil law with regard to land ownership. While men's land rights are through inheritance, women's land rights are through marriage and restricted to land used for food crop only. Farms run by female headed households tend to have less labor available for farm work, due to limited resources that women have to hire labor. Female farmers have limited access to loans compared to their male counterparts, since they do not have collateral. Women are more likely to be illiterate than men with an average expected year of schooling of 8.3 years for women and 14 years for men. Moreover, women are less likely to have access to information to make use of pest control systems, as well as of mechanised equipment.

Women bear the brunt of climate change. Women and girls walk for long distances to fetch water. At the same time, women are marginalised in decision making positions in water point groups, even though the women are primary managers of household water.

Men and women perceive climate change and food availability differently. While women perceive droughts in terms of water shortage for domestic use, men tend to perceive it in terms of lack of pasture for the livestock. This causes men to migrate in search of greener pastures. As men migrate, they may set up new families and women move into agriculture as household heads. Therefore, the migration often results in increased burden for women. At the same time, as women become economically active, their workload increases and children may be left without supervision at an early age.

Source: IFAD Angola 2022: Socio-economic and nutritional assessment. Unpublished.

Between July and October 2022, the number of households with insufficient food consumption went from 3.8 million to 4 million.

The number of those in crisis or above crisis level employing food-based coping strategies, such as reducing non-food expenses, spending savings, borrowing money, selling household assets, and consuming seed stocks, went from 11.2 million to 11.5 million in the same period.¹⁹³ The drought has led to low crop yields and poor harvest, depleted resources, loss of livelihoods and livestock, rising food prices, lack sanitation, and increasing pests/diseases infestations.¹⁹⁴

The food security crises have led to migrations from southern Angola to Namibia under extreme duress and loss of life. Although seasonal cross-border migrations have always taken place, the 2021/2022 drought was unusually severe and created immense suffering among

affected populations. As livestock were affected by lack of fodder and depletion of rangelands, pastoralists have moved into Namibia in search of grazing land and water, but extreme conditions have led to dramatic conditions. There are reports of children too weak to travel being left behind by families fighting for their survival.¹⁹⁵

Floods and coastal erosion

Among climate change disasters, floods and coastal erosion are of particular concern in Angola, as 50% of Angolan families live in coastal areas. Around 56% of Angola coastal areas at risk of medium erosion and 31% of floods occurred in Luanda and Benguela in 2017, but other affected coastal areas include Cabinda, Zaire, and Namibe.¹⁹⁶ The direct economic losses due to floods is estimated at USD 94 million per year.¹⁹⁷

¹⁹³ WFP, 2022b.

¹⁹⁴ FAO/IFAD, 2022.

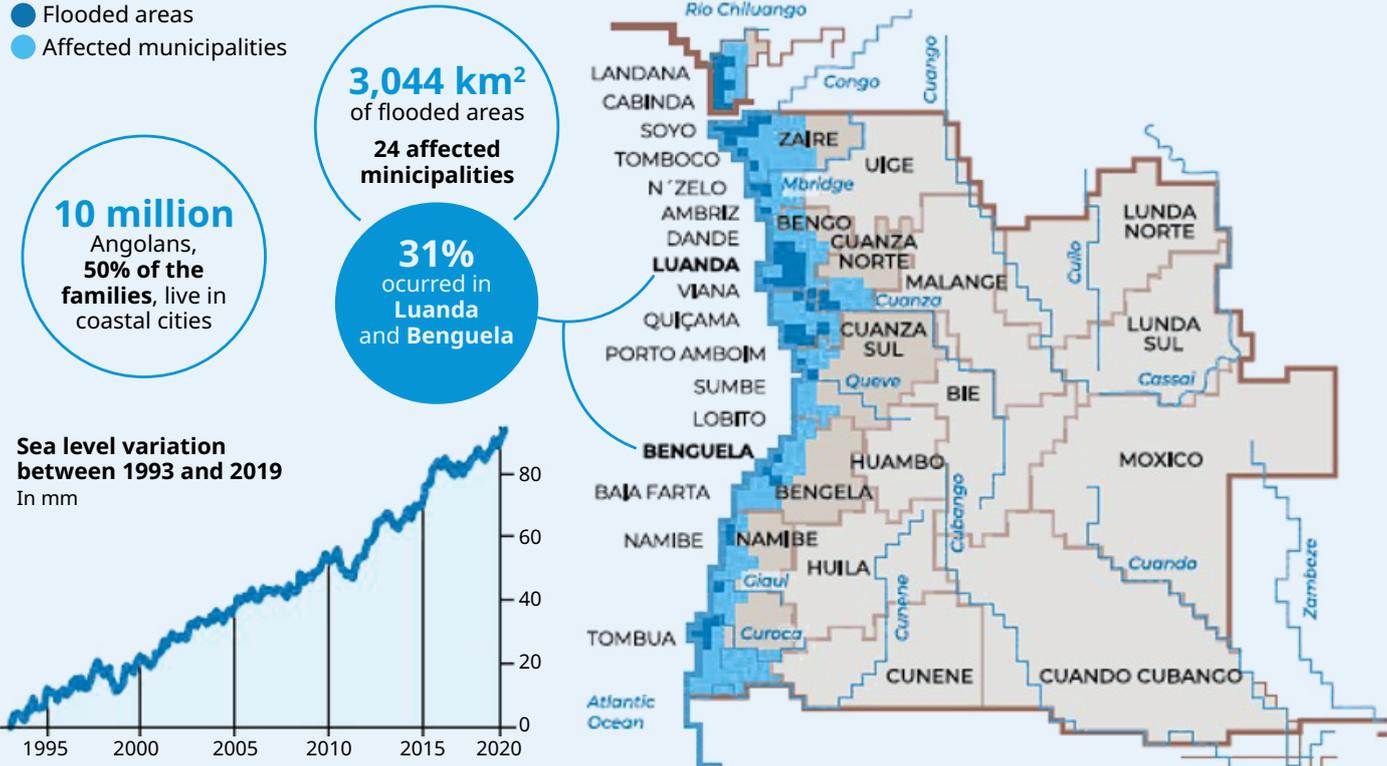
¹⁹⁵ Focus group interview with civil society organizations, 7 November 2022.

¹⁹⁶ UNDP, 2021.

¹⁹⁷ CIMA and UNISDR, 2018.

MAP 7 Areas prone to be flooded by 2100

- Flooded areas
- Affected municipalities



Source: UNDP 2021

Urban housing and *musseques*

Angola has a population of approximately 31 million people and a growing urban population that is placing considerable strain on the country for providing adequate housing. Angola's population almost doubled between 2000 and 2020, with a growth rate just above 3%. Angola's urbanisation rate is 4.2% and two thirds of the total population live in urban areas. Approximately half of urban residents live in *musseques* or inadequate housing, with the more than 66% of households living in inadequate housing in Luanda.¹⁹⁸ By 2025, 30% to 35% of the population is expected to be concentrated in three main cities (Luanda, Huambo and Benguela).¹⁹⁹

The Government of Angola's (GOA) National Urbanization and Housing Programme (PNUH) sought to deliver one million houses as part of the country's post-war reconstruction. However, the PNUH has supplied only 43,861 units between 2015 and 2021. The government's efforts to implement its housing projects is reflected in the decrease in the percentage of the population living in informal settlements known as *musseques* (from 65% in 2010, to 47% in 2018). However, despite these efforts, over 67% of Luanda's population continue to live in self-built housing, constructed with "people's own resources and savings, often with a lack of adequate and affordable basic public services, and on land for which they do not have formal ti-

ties." In urban areas, most construction investments have benefited the middle and high-income class, and excluded low-income segments of the market.²⁰⁰

The slow reduction of the percentage of population living in slums in Angola is due to the large-scale housing projects conducted since the beginning of the 2000s (e.g. the National Territorial Planning and Urbanism Policy, the National Housing Policy), reflecting the government's efforts to implement housing projects aimed at both the construction of new housing and the urban upgrading of peripheral neighbourhoods. However, efforts to upgrade housing and slum conditions (e.g. the National Slum Prevention and Upgrading Strategy), in particular tenure security, have been elaborated, but have never been officialised nor their elements incorporated into government initiatives.²⁰¹

The urban population is set to increase exponentially, with up to 90% living in *musseques* by 2050. Some of the *musseques* today are built in risky areas, on slopes and on the edge of rivers and streams or low coastline areas and are exposed to: (i) rise of sea levels; (ii) coastal storms and high waves; (iii) floods (iv) landslides; (v) less basic sanitation; (vi) spread of tropical diseases. This will expose vulnerable groups to disasters that may lead to loss of life and property, as landslides may occur in these areas. More rain-

¹⁹⁸ Cain, 2020.

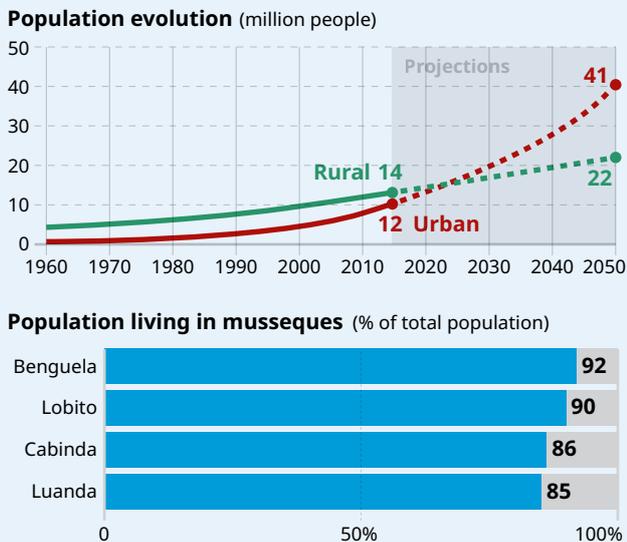
¹⁹⁹ UN-Habitat, 2017 (pg. 14).

²⁰⁰ Centre for Affordable Housing Finance in Africa, 2021.

²⁰¹ UN-Habitat Angola, 2022.

fall and flooding also has an impact on health, as the prevalence of vector-borne diseases such as malaria and dengue increase, and poor sanitation leads to the contamination of drinking water.

FIGURE 41 Trends in urbanization and populations living in musseques (slums)



Some of the *musseques* are built in risky areas, on slopes, and on river margins, near streams or low coastline areas and are exposed to:

- Sea level rise
- Coastal storms and calemas
- Floods
- Landslides
- Less basic sanitation
- Spread of tropical diseases

Source: Geogestão, 2019

Infrastructure



In a scenario of between 1.5 to 2.0 degrees warming, sea level rise is projected to increase from 0.35m to 0.93 m.²⁰² Sea level rise affects agriculture as sea intrusion affects rivers and underground waters. With a higher salinity level in the water, crops get compromised and drinking water may require further treatment. Furthermore, human settlement and infrastructures built along the coast may be compromised.

MAP 8 Adaptation levels of ports to climate change



Source: Geogestão, 2019

²⁰² Government of Angola, 2021b.

Ports, roads, bridges, power lines and railways are all affected by changes in sea level rise and /or temperature. No data was available on the potential economic impact of climate change on infrastructure. There is therefore a strong need for vulnerability assessments focusing on coastal areas and inland infrastructure as a basis for climate change adaptation investments.

Digital infrastructure and connectivity remain weak and concentrated in Luanda and other major urban areas. The 2015-2016 IIMS survey showed that only 37% of men and 18% of women use the Internet, with usage being higher in urban areas (49% for men and 25% for women) compared to 7% of men and 1% of women in rural areas.²⁰³

Blue economy: Fisheries and aquaculture

The contribution of various maritime economy sectors to GDP has oscillated in the past years, with an increase registered in the fisheries sector and a decrease in remaining sectors.



Angola has issued a National Sea Strategy for public discussion in April 2022 in order to support the management of the Blue Economy in the country and manage its marine resources. The Strategy refers to the African Integrated Maritime Strategy of the African Union as a framework to fight illegal fishing, which may contribute to overfishing and fish stock depletion.²⁰⁴ Implementation will be an important step forward, supported by the proposed Marine Space Zoning Plan.²⁰⁵

MAP 9 Areas at risk of disease, parasites and algae growth with the effects of climate change



Aquaculture is developed mainly in inland waters in the provinces of **Malanje, Benguela and Cuanza Norte**. The impacts of climate change include production losses due to increased temperature and altered occurrence and virulence of pathogens, which can lead to an increased risk of diseases, parasites and algae growth. Infrastructure could also be threatened by the increased frequency of extreme events and the rise in the average sea level

Source: Geogestão, 2019

²⁰³ Government of Angola, 2021a.

²⁰⁴ GoA, 2022c.

²⁰⁵ GoA, 2022d.

The Plan seeks to regulate activities such as fishing, aquaculture, process industries, oil extraction and offshore gas, as well as maritime transport, ports and infrastructure.²⁰⁶

Sea water temperature is also expected to raise slightly along the Angolan coast, as is ocean acidification.²⁰⁷ This presents a number of challenges to fisheries and aquaculture, as variations in temperature promote the growth of algae and expose fish to diseases. Ocean acidification further leads to the death of corals which a number of fish species require for reproduction. There is equally a need to assess the impacts of projected temperature changes in the fishing industry and inland aquaculture operations.

Plastic waste and chemical pollution are also a serious concern. Lack of capacity and coordination mechanisms for addressing water management pose grave challenges for Angola's management of plastic waste: the capital Luanda alone produces 6,000 tonnes of solid waste every day, which the city has struggled to manage. Meanwhile, storm runoffs and sewer overflows, as well as possible overfishing means that a lot of plastic ends up in Angola's oceans. At the same time, waste from the oil and gas sector and other industrial activities may pose a serious environmental concern. There's also no government entity responsible for coordinating the chemicals agenda.²⁰⁸

²⁰⁶ Ibid.

²⁰⁷ Ibid.

²⁰⁸ UNEP, 2022.

Biodiversity

Angola holds an extraordinary diversity of species and ecosystems. The country is the second most diverse in terms of ecoregions, after South Africa. It has a rich flora with an estimated 6,850 native and non-native plants species and an equal or higher number of animal species, including birds, reptile, mammals, fish and amphibians.²⁰⁹ The increase in illegal poaching during the civil war led to a near extinction of many species in the country with protective status. The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated Angola's challenges in protecting wildlife. For example, according to a presentation made by the Financial Intelligence Unit at the 43rd Senior Officials Meeting of the Eastern and Southern Africa Anti-Money Laundering Task Force, it is estimated that there are 0,4-0,7 millions of pangolins hunted annually, representing an increase of about 150%, only for medicinal purposes.

Angola is working towards the creation of environmental protection areas and has recently adopted a National Strategy for Marine and Coastal Management.

Specific projects are being planned with the goal to protect biodiversity in 11 marine and coastal regions, decrease forest fires and promote sustainable livelihoods, supported by plans to ensure the financial sustainability of protected areas.²¹⁰ Besides marine protected areas system, it is important to also note challenges related to the expansion and rehabilitation of terrestrial protected areas system (3 news protected areas are being established, namely Moro do Moco, Serra do Pingano and Floresta da Cumbira), illegal wildlife trade (e.g. revitalization of the environmental crime unit), financial sustainability of protected areas system in Angola, and disconnection on management of protected areas vis-à-vis tourism promotion.

²⁰⁹ Huntley and Ferrand, 2019.

²¹⁰ Ibid.



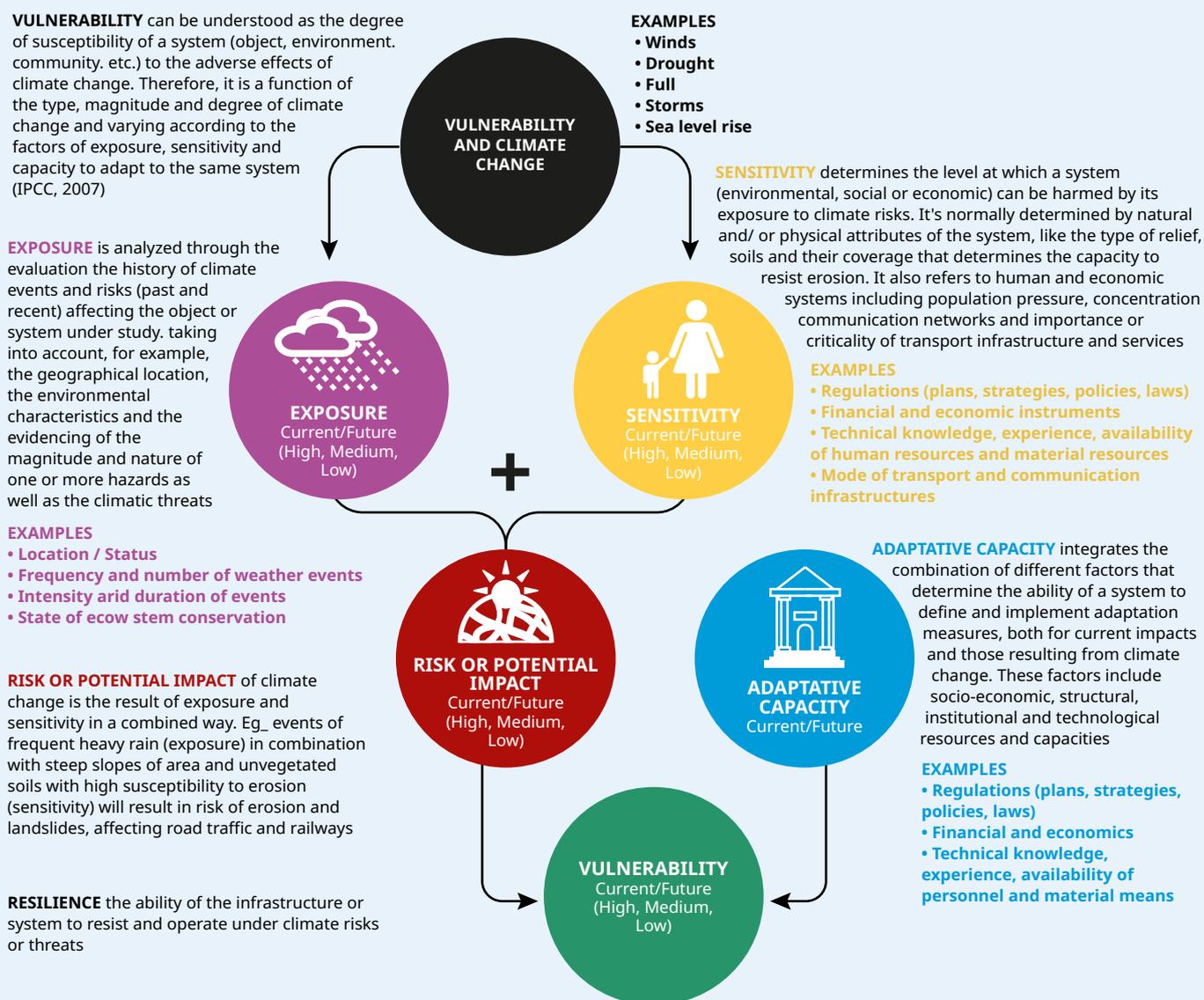
Investing in adaptive capacity and better disaster risk management

The challenges associated with climate change call for an alignment of national development priorities with climate change adaptation measures to enable Angola to improve food security for the population, while protecting its fisheries and agriculture sectors, as well as its forests. The depletion of natural capital as a short-term survival strategy will exacerbate long term food insecurity and drive more people into poverty.

While countries may not be able to reduce their exposure to climate change and their sensitivity to climate risk, they may protect themselves from the main impacts of climate change, and they can reduce their vulnerability by investing in their adaptive capacity and in disaster risk reduction strategies. The participation of marginalised persons and groups, including women and indigenous peoples, in the formulation of policies will be crucial to ensure sustainable resilience.

Adaptive capacity is a combination of factors that determine the ability of a system to define and implement adaptation measures, both for current impacts and those resulting from climate change. These include regulations, financial decisions and investment in technical knowledge to support the climate change adaptation, as well as disaster risk management due to floods and droughts.

FIGURE 42

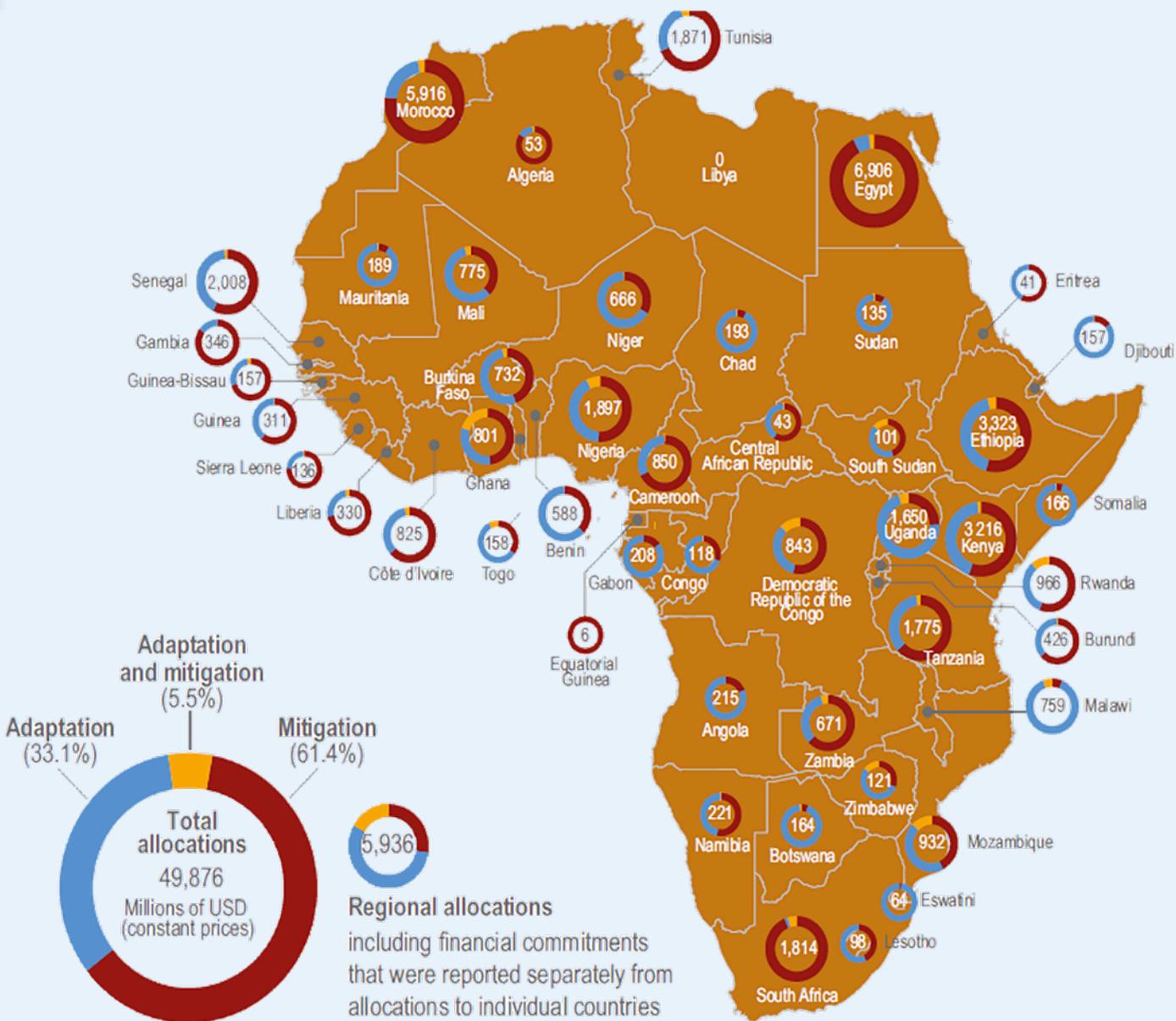


Source: UNDP 2021



Compared to other countries in the region, Angola has accessed relatively little climate finance from OECD countries and international sources like the World Bank, the Green Climate Fund, or Germany's International Climate Initiative.²¹¹ The figure below shows total adaptation and mitigation-related commitments to African countries from 2014-2018 as reported to OECD. Accessing climate finance requires a high level of capacity and investment for vulnerability assessments, feasibility studies and other preparatory work. Public private partnerships may also be viable sources of funding, particularly in urban areas.

MAP 10 Total adaptation and mitigation related finance commitments by country 2014-2018.



Source: IPCC 2020

As an encouraging sign of renewed commitment to environment protection, the draft national budget for 2023 almost doubled the resources to this item, from Kz 13.9 billion in 2022 to Kz 24.8 billion in 2023. ●

²¹¹ For more information, please see World Bank, 2022c, the Green Climate Fund web site and Global Clearinghouse for Development Finance, 2020.

Selected opportunities

Axis V

(iv) Energy, (v) Water, (vi) Environment

Axis VI

(vii) Agriculture and Livestock, (viii) Forests

- ✓ In his acceptance speech, President João Lourenço mentioned infrastructure, the environment, climate change adaptation and forest management as some of his key priorities. There is a recognition that investments in Angola's adaptive capacity protect investments in infrastructure and translate into better economic outcomes. In addition, prioritizing climate change adaptation translates into safeguarding Angolan urban and rural communities from some of the worst impacts of climate change, i.e. loss of life and property as well as the hardships that occur as a consequence of floods, landslides and drought, thus strengthening the HDP triple nexus.
- ✓ In the context of the Food Systems Summit, Angola updated its National Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) strategy (2021-2030) and elaborated a proposal to organize the FSN National Council as an inter-institutional and multi-partners dialogue platform to address food security issues in the country.
- ✓ No data was available on the potential economic impact of climate change on infrastructure. There is therefore a strong need for vulnerability assessments, focusing on coastal areas and inland infrastructure as a basis for climate change adaptation investments.
- ✓ Adaptation measures may include nature-based solutions such as protecting coastal areas with mangroves, risk sensitive urban planning, early warning systems, low-cost cisterns for households and flood and/or drought resistance seeds. International financial institutions such as the Green Climate Fund have a comprehensive database of projects in the public domain, which offer a wealth of lessons learned and best practices in adaptation. As an African country that has received relatively little climate finance to date, Angola may be a prime candidate to access funding.
- ✓ Angola has an energy sector Action Plan (Energia 2025) and an unmet need for clean energy. Mitigation activities that include public-private partnerships for increased access to clean energy, and infrastructure present the double advantage of preventing increased greenhouse gas emissions and attracting FDI while offering access to better public services. Although the market potential is significant due to the number of people without energy access, there is a need to make Angola an attractive business environment in order to attract private investments. Low subsidized tariffs contribute to prevent the private sector from investing in this area.
- ✓ There is high awareness on the impact of pests on agricultural production and the Ministry of Environment is already working to develop strategies for pest management. South-south cooperation with other institutions in the Portuguese speaking world such as the Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation (Embrapa) may be explored to provide solutions.
- ✓ The Government is interested in the protection of biodiversity and in fighting illegal wildlife trade. It may be a candidate for funding resulting from the United Nations Biodiversity Conference (COP 15) in December 2022.
- ✓ The United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD), implemented jointly by UNEP, FAO and UNDP, is the UN knowledge and advisory platform on the forest solutions to the climate crisis. Angola is one of the few African countries that is not an UN-REDD partner. Given the renewed momentum to implement the Paris Agreement and fight deforestation, Angola could explore opportunities to access climate finance through the programme.

Human rights and Leave No One Behind

3.5

National Development Plan Intervention Domains:

✓ Axis I

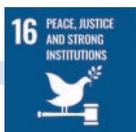
(i) Consolidation of the Rule of Law and State Reform (iii) Justice, (iv) Social Communication and Freedom of Expression, (v) Civil Society

✓ Axis III

(i) Health, (ii) Education, (vi) Employment, Entrepreneurship and Professional Training;

✓ Axis IV

(iii) Gender equality, (iv) Family, (v) Children, (vi) Youth



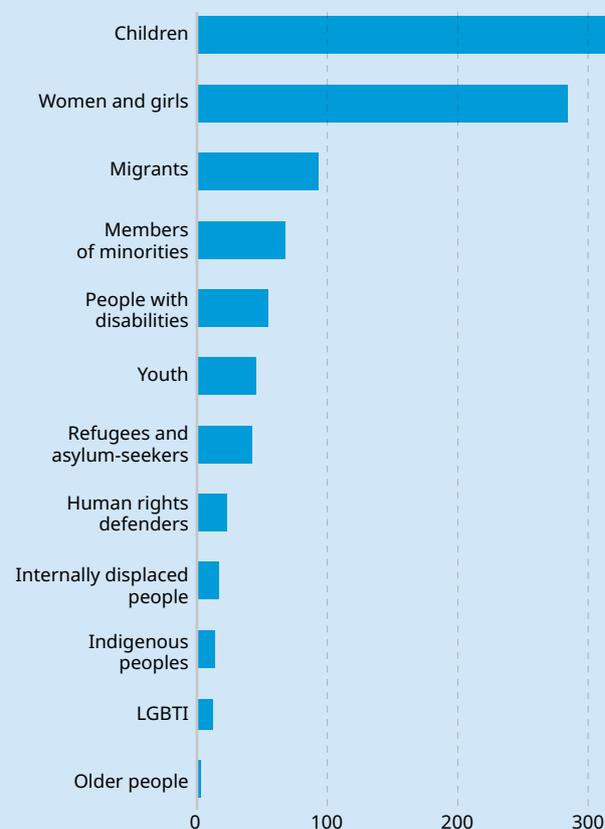
Angola has made progress in the human rights agenda since the last UN programming cycle, having ratified the Convention against Torture, and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

(CAT), the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD), and the Optional Protocol for the Abolition of the Death Penalty in 2019. The country is a signatory to seven core human rights treaties²¹² but has yet to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (CMW) and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances (CED). Angola has accepted the individual communication and inquiry procedure to the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

²¹² For a full list of treaties ratified by Angola and inquiry procedures accepted, please consult the UN Treaty Body Database.

In the third Universal Periodic Review Process (UPR) cycle in 2019, Angola received 270 recommendations and committed to support 259 of them. Most UPR recommendations refer to the rights of women, and girls, children, migrants, persons with disabilities, members of minorities and youth. Moreover, other groups such as LGBTIQ+ and indigenous peoples still suffer serious human rights violations. Angola has pending visit requests from the Special Rapporteurs on Extreme Poverty, on the Right to Development, on Torture, and on Extra Judicial, Summary and Arbitrary executions.

FIGURE 43 Number of recommendations by rightholder group (2008-2019)



Source: The Danish Institute for Human Rights: SDG Human Rights Data Explorer.

The Human Rights Strategy is an important step, but the implementation needs to be strengthened. According to civil society organizations, the Strategy was not formulated in a participatory manner. There are 163 committees at local (municipal) level, and more are being established. Although local human rights committees provide important opportunities for citizens to be heard, enforcement of their rights has been weak. There is no link between local human rights committees and the police/judiciary which prevents adequate legal follow-up. In some areas, there is a perception that committees are an extension of the ruling party, which compromises their effectiveness.²¹³

Human rights institutions

Progress has been made in establishing human rights institutions, but these need strengthening. Angola has established a functional Intersectoral Commission for Reporting on Human Rights (Comissão Intersectorial para a Elaboração de Relatórios Nacionais de Direitos Humanos, CIERDH) serving as a National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow up (NMRF). This body was established by a cabinet decree with membership of more than 25 representatives from various government ministries and a secretariat hosted by the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights. Angola continues to make very good progress on State party reporting to treaty bodies. Although the country has several sectorial plans for the implementation of recommendations from human rights mechanisms, there is still much to be achieved to demonstrate effective implementation of human rights, from all human rights mechanisms linked to the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Challenges persist in strengthening the Office of the Ombudsperson to comply with the Paris Principles, in line with SDG 16 indicator 16.a.1.²¹⁴ The Constitution makes provision for an independent Office of the Ombudsperson to mediate between an aggrieved public and an offending public office or institution. This Office has no decision-making or adjudicative powers, but helps citizens to access justice and advises government entities on citizen rights. The Office also educates the public about the role of the Ombudsperson, human rights, and publishes reports. Angola recently revised the Ombudsperson Law but with a limited mandate in the promotion and protection of human rights as well as limited independence. The revision of the law notwithstanding, the Office is yet to comply with international human rights standards for national human rights institutions (the Paris Principles). The current Ombudsperson in Angola has a limited mandate on human rights, but has insufficient geographic coverage in operations and inadequate financial resources. There is limited visibility and awareness of its existence among the general public.²¹⁵ It

²¹³ Focus group discussion with civil society organizations, 08 November 2022. See “List of Persons Interviewed” in the Annexes.

²¹⁴ SDG 16 target 16.a “Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime”; Indicator 6.a.1 “Existence of independent national human rights institutions in compliance with the Paris Principles”.

²¹⁵ UNHCR, 2019 paras 9-10.

would be important for Angola to establish an independent national institution that complies with the Paris Principles if it is to fulfil its commitment, as expressed during its constructive dialogue with treaty bodies and during the UPR process. Angola should also ensure that, in addition to civil and political rights, the mandate of Ombudsperson is extended to include due attention to economic, social and cultural rights (in line with Angola’s obligations under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights), and that the Ombudsperson’s Office has the necessary independence, powers and human and technical resources to fulfil its mandate.

Women and girls

Gender inequality is pervasive in Angola, leading to the violation of women’s enjoyment of fundamental human rights such as the rights to health²¹⁶ and education,²¹⁷ and detrimentally impacting income levels and economic participation. The 2021 female HDI value for Angola is 0.557 in contrast with 0.617 for males, resulting in a **Gender Development Index (GDI)** value of 0.903, placing it into Group 4 (medium to low equality in HDI achievements) – due to gender inequalities across life expectancy, education and income. Moreover, Angola has a **Gender Inequality Index (GII)** value of 0.537, ranking it 136 out of 170 countries – due to a high maternal mortality ratio and adolescent birth rate, as well as a lower female population with at least some secondary education compared to males and lower female labor force participation compared to males.²¹⁸

Gender-based violence is widespread.²¹⁹ The IIMS 2015-2016 obtained information from women about the experience of violence committed by anyone within the household, including their current or previous husband/partner, at some point. The results indicate that about 32% of women aged 15-49 have, at some point, experienced physical violence.²²⁰ The same survey indicated that 25% of men and 20% of women considered beating of a woman acceptable for reasons such as jealousy, questioning a man’s decision or talking to a neighbor.”²²¹

Although not captured by official sources, anecdotal evidence suggests that LGBTIQ+ groups also experience a high level of domestic violence as a result of discrimination within the family. Although Angola has had an Executive Plan to Fight Domestic Violence since 2017, according to civil society organizations, there is still low police awareness of the law in that regard.²²² Moreover, UN Human Rights



²¹⁶ Article 12 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

²¹⁷ Article 13 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

²¹⁸ UNDP b, 2022.

²¹⁹ HRC, 2019a, CEDAW, 2019.

²²⁰ INE, 2017.

²²¹ IIMS, p. 272.

²²² Observatório de Género, Focus group discussion on 08 November 2022.



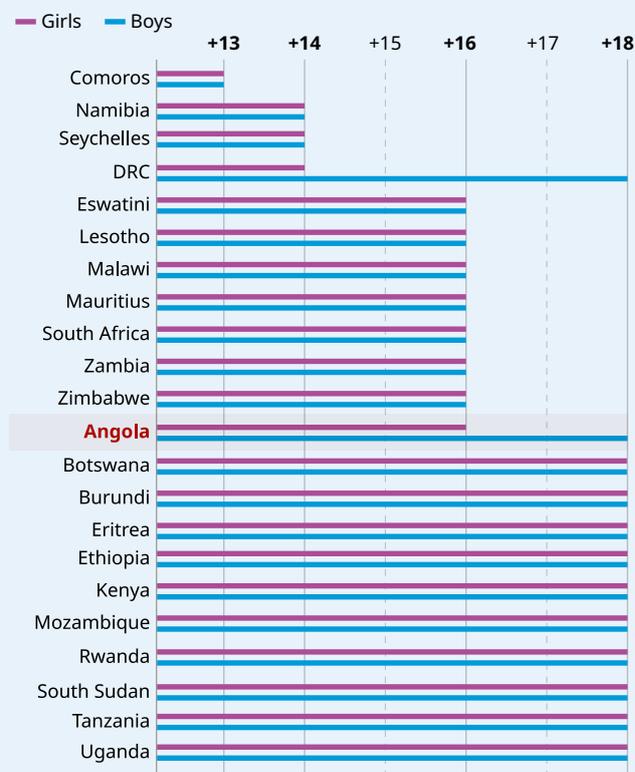
Mechanisms including the Human Rights Committee, have noted that GBV is under-reported in Angola due to the stigmatization of victims, fear of reprisals, legal illiteracy and lack of trust in law enforcement authorities.²²³ Currently, there is inadequate assistance and remedies available to women seeking to escape domestic violence. The number of shelters is also inadequate.²²⁴

Despite good progress, Angola should continue to facilitate access to justice for women who face intersecting forms of discrimination, particularly women in rural areas, women with disabilities, women who are victims of gender-based violence and migrant, asylum-seeking and refugee women. In 2019, CEDAW urged Angola to “accelerate the process of the decentralization of the courts and the creation of out-of-court dispute settlement centers throughout the State party, in particular in rural areas, accompanying that process with the provision of procedural and age-appropriate accommodations” in order to ensure access to justice for women who face intersecting forms of discrimination.²²⁵ In its 2021 assessment of the implementation of its recommendations, CEDAW assessed this recommendation as having been “substantially implemented”. CEDAW requested that Angola provide information as to further actions taken to ensure access to justice for women, in its next periodic report to the Committee.²²⁶

Child marriage and adolescent pregnancy are amongst the main barriers that could slow down the social and economic development in Angola. As discussed in Section 3.3, these are some of the main reasons why girls drop out of school and are in turn more likely to enter into child and/or forced marriages.²²⁷ In general girls living in rural areas and with low years of schooling are more likely to become

child brides.²²⁸ From a human rights perspective, a girl who becomes pregnant—regardless of the circumstances or reasons—is one whose rights are undermined. Pregnancy and childbirth are particularly risky for adolescents in low-income settings, due to a combination of inadequate nutrition, limited access to healthcare, and bodies that have not fully matured. Consequently, complications from pregnancy and childbirth are the leading cause of death for 15-19 year old girls globally.²²⁹

FIGURE 44 Age of consent to sexual activity for males and females



Source: legislative acts.

²²³ UNHRC 2019, para 17(b).

²²⁴ Ibid.

²²⁵ UN CEDAW, 2019 para 14(a).

²²⁶ Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, *Follow-up assessment letter* (19 July 2021).

²²⁷ CEDAW, 2019 para 23; CRC, 2018, para 22(c).

²²⁸ UNFPA, 2022.

²²⁹ UNFPA, 2020..

People with Disabilities



People with Disabilities (PWD) merit special concern. Angola has ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and developed a framework to provide support to them, including the National Council for persons with Disabilities, but PWD still face serious challenges. Disability is caused by the effects of four decades of civil war, deficiencies in health, limited access to prevention programmes, effects of diseases, and high road accident rate. There are 658,258 PWD in Angola (365,547 urban and 290,710 rural). The prevalence of disability was 2.5 % with 56 % male and 44 % female. Of these, 56 % reside in rural areas. The most prevalent forms of disabilities include: mental (10%), sensory (28%), and motor disability (62 %).²³⁰ PWD face extreme poverty due to lack of sufficient resources, loss of property after acquiring a disability and lack of social protection.²³¹ There is a need to establish a statistical data collection system to assess the level of enjoyment of human rights, including economic, social and cultural rights, by people with disabilities, as well as by people facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, such as women and girls with disabilities. In the absence of policies addressing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, such as policies promoting the rights of women and girls with disabilities, many people with disabilities – particularly women and girls with disabilities – continue to face barriers in accessing health services employment, education, housing and justice, as well as to participating in public and political life.²³² In respect of women and girls with disabilities, there is room for the adoption of further legal measures, including quotas and other proactive measures, accompanied by time-bound targets, sufficient resources and sanctions

²³⁰ Ibid.

²³¹ IFAD Angola, 2022.

²³² CEDAW, 2019 para 43(a).

for non-compliance, to accelerate the realization of the rights of all women, in particular women and girls with disabilities.²³³

Indigenous People

Angola does not recognize the concept of Indigenous People (IP) and there is no reference to IP in the Constitution. The marginalized groups in Angola include the San and Himba, and other smaller groups (Kwisi, Kwepe, Kiwali and Zemba). The IPs depend on subsistence agriculture consisting of small-scale crop and livestock production primarily for own use, and collection of wild plants for consumption and sale. In Cuando Cubango, the San are more reliant on natural resources, with limited alternative livelihoods. Cuando Cubango have unreliable water sources with the population relying on seasonal water sources, rain-water harvesting and rivers. The San have limited nutrition and lack access to services. The challenges faced include displacements from ancestral lands, drought, and land tenure, availability of seeds, access roads and access to natural resources. Moreover, the UN Human Rights Mechanisms have noted that IPs are reportedly subjected to discrimination in access to food, water, health and education. Despite recent initiatives to recognize ownership and use of lands by some minority communities, members of the San continue to encounter impediments in maintaining access to their lands and pastoralists in the south-west have faced exclusion from grazing lands and expropriation of land. Development activities often have a negative impact on IPs' access to land enjoyment of traditional ways of life. A legal framework for consultation with affected communities prior to embarking on such activities is currently lacking.²³⁴

²³³ Ibid. para 22(b).

²³⁴ HRC, 2019 para 49 and United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights- CESCR, 2016 para 19 .



Land Tenure in Angola

Land conflict is an issue affecting urban, rural and peri-urban areas in Angola. Poor communities affected by the expansion of cities and towns are particularly vulnerable. Of these, women are the most vulnerable. Access to land is a matter of survival, for those whose only income and accumulated assets are drawn from their land. More than half of families depend on informal sector activities to sustain themselves. Securing land rights and housing assets are important to the livelihoods of women-headed households by permitting access to financing that they require to grow their enterprises, as well as for incrementally upgrading their housing.

The post-socialist inheritance has left the State as the formal owner of all land. In practice however there is an active informal land market, large-scale land-grabs by urban elites, and increasing conflicts affecting communities, small holders and families, particularly those headed by women. While the existing land law recognizes customary land use (residential, traditional agriculture and access to water) customary traditions are practiced in the various regions and cultures of the country, women's rights of ownership and inheritance are weakly protected and are often unrecognised.

The formal statutory systems governing land rights and transactions in Angola are more favorable to women than in many African countries, but they are not yet fully realized and implemented in practice. [...] Customary laws and practices mostly favor men, and men dominate Angola's political, economic, and social spheres. The majority of Angolan women remain trapped with a lack of assets, illiteracy, limited economic opportunities, and the need to care for children and relatives. Land rights provide a critical asset to all women regardless of their circumstances but most particularly those with the fewest options. The Government of Angola's current land and decentralization reforms provide an opportunity to design a strategy for protecting and improving women's rights to land and livelihoods potential.

Traditional authorities, such as local chiefs (sobas) are often the only administrators, mediators, and adjudicators of land rights that women will ever encounter. Less than one percent of the traditional chiefs are women. These individuals and local institutions of governance and dispute resolution generally apply customary law and local practice to guide decisions regarding land rights.

Under traditional succession practices, Angolan women generally do not have land access equal to men, as family land passes to sons and male relatives of the deceased husband. Women generally move to her husband's house upon marriage and often live on and cultivate land owned by the husband's family or granted by the family or soba (traditional authority) to the husband. If the women are subsequently widowed, abandoned, or divorced, the former husband or relatives of the husband may force the women from the husband's land and home [...]

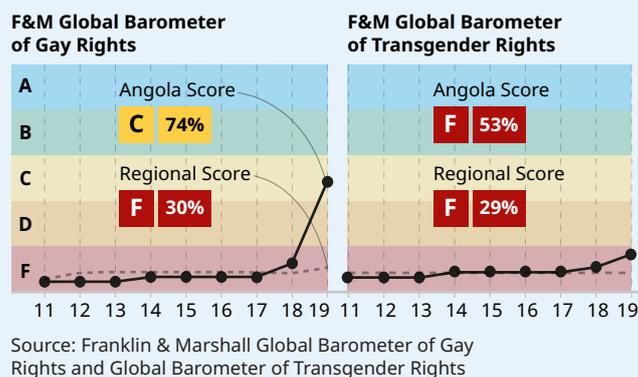
Opportunities are increasing for civil society and community representatives to employ emerging local spaces such as municipal forums and consultative councils in order to bring the debate on land rights into the public arena. Land issues are likely to be high on the agenda of elected municipal councils when they are instituted after the first local governmental elections [...] and the constitution of municipalities with decentralized authority and budgets.

Source: Development Workshop 2021

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer and Others (LGBTIQ+)

Angola is more tolerant than some other countries in Africa, but discrimination remains widespread.²³⁵ Regional scores increased significantly for the rights of LGBTIQ+ persons after the new Penal Code decriminalized same sex relationships, but the score for transgender rights remains low.²³⁶ According to Afrobarometer, almost four in ten Angolans (38%) are tolerant towards homosexual couples as their neighbors. Although just over half of the population (55%) figures as intolerant, Angola is in the eighth position in a group of 36 countries with the same survey – the average in those countries is 20% of the population is tolerant.²³⁷

FIGURE 45 LGBTIQ+ rights



UPR Recommendations on LGBTIQ+ rights

The five UPR recommendations specifically about LGBTIQ+ people adopted by Angola in its third cycle (2019) prescribes the development and implementation of a national plan to combat and prevent discriminatory social attitude based on sexual orientation and gender identity (clauses 146.66, 146.68). Recommendations also advised the importance of enforcing the recent legal protections and beyond, by creating effective institutional mechanism to tackle discrimination, harassment and violence against LGBTIQ+ people (146.71) and investigate promptly, fully, independently and impartially all allegations of violence and human rights violations of individuals based on their sexual orientation and gender identity (146.67 and 146.69). Angolan LGBTIQ+ CSOs submitted a joint shadow report to the UPR third cycle¹³ and to the CEDAW processes. In addition to what has been described above, LGBTIQ+ activists call for a revision of the Domestic Violence law (Law 25/11) to include GBV based on sexual orientation, gender identity and expression (SOGIE), and that also concern LGBTIQ+ children and adolescent expelled from home by their families due to their SOGIE. They also call for an amendment to the labor law to include discrimination and proper enforcement of current non-discrimination disposition to overcome the issue of access to decent work.

Lack of official data on the LGBTIQ+ community in Angola and is a serious challenge. Angola does not have official demographic data on its sexual- and gender-diverse population. The limited available data is based on population size and estimated as part of the HIV response. **The situation of transgender people is of particular concern.** Trans people face challenges with Article 130 of the Civil Registry Code which prohibits change of name and sex marker, and they are unassisted when needing hormone treatment. Transgender women may face additional challenges in educational spaces, demonstrated by low levels of school enrolment and progression through the education system. One survey found that only 19% are enrolled in school, with 51% entering the second cycle and 35% the first cycle, and only 1.6% reaching University.²³⁸ Transgender women are disproportionately affected by HIV with an estimated 9 % prevalence compared to 2 % of the overall population²³⁹.

²³⁵ HRC, 2019 para 13 and CEDAW, 2019 para 43.

²³⁶ M Global Barometer of Gay Rights and the Global Barometer of Transgender Rights, 2019.

²³⁷ Afrobarometer, 2021.

²³⁸ UNDP, 2021. UNDP (2022c).

²³⁹ USAID/PEPFAR/LINKAGES, 2017.

People living with HIV are negatively affected by the new Penal Code. The new Penal code criminalizes HIV exposure, non-disclosure and transmission. It creates serious barriers to accessing health services and can discourage people from seeking testing and adhering to treatment. While the HIV Law 8/04 protects people from HIV-related discrimination, ongoing reports show stigma and discrimination is a major challenge²⁴⁰. The upcoming People Living with HIV Stigma Index Report will provide important new data and recommendations.

Human rights defenders

Human rights defenders, including journalists, remain subjected to harassment by law enforcement, and are restricted in their exercise of the right to assembly, the right to freedom of association, and the right to freedom of assembly.²⁴¹ The Human Rights Committee in 2019 expressed its concern “about the alleged use of excessive force, including the use of dogs, intimidation and arbitrary detention

²⁴⁰ UNDP, 2022a.

²⁴¹ Angola has accepted UPR recommendations calling for increased protection of human rights defenders. See HRC 2019b para 146.20-146.31.

against peaceful protesters. It is further concerned about the insufficient information provided by the State party regarding any investigations, prosecutions and convictions in relation to such violations."²⁴²

Refugees and stateless persons

Despite most of the refugee population having arrived decades ago, many remain with the status of asylum-seekers and are undocumented. Angola currently hosts close to 56,000 refugees and asylum-seekers, the majority originating from the DRC as well as from West-African countries, in addition to a few from Rwanda, Sudan and Somalia, among others. The country has been impacted by mixed migration flows,²⁴³ which have more recently increased due to poverty and conflict in its neighbouring countries. In general terms, lack of documentation prevents access to justice and basic services/rights.²⁴⁴ This would include not having freedom of movement, access to education and livelihoods opportunities, justice, social safety, etc., which may represent additional risks for those living in extreme vulnerable situations and increasing in the level of poverty and inequality levels.²⁴⁵

Reception mechanisms have yet to be implemented. Since the passing of the new Refugee Law in 2015, reception mechanisms for new arrivals have not been formally implemented yet and there is lack of clarity procedures to be followed by those in need of international protection.²⁴⁶ There have been reports of mass expulsions of migrants and asylum seekers, including those in need of international protection, without carrying out the necessary individual assessments.²⁴⁷ As a result, inconsistent practices, lack of information both from asylum-seekers, refugees as well as operators, lack of predictability and transparency in processes as well as the inexistence of a proper referral mechanism leave room for abusive or discriminatory treatment, exploitation, harassment and particularly, a heightened risk of refoulement, trafficking and smuggling of persons of concern to UNHCR. All the above eventually result in extreme difficulties for refugees to access the territory, enjoy freedom of movement and ultimately, benefit from effective asylum in Angola.²⁴⁸

Border management remains problematic. There are

reports of several fraudulent practices along the border, which harm the economies of Angola and its neighbours, through smuggling practices that evade taxation, and puts vulnerable populations in the border communities at risk. Criminal groups explore weaknesses in border management to engage in practices such as smuggling, human trafficking, forced labor and sexual abuse, particularly against the involuntarily returned migrants²⁴⁹, who often have insufficient means to return to their areas of origin, to find adequate shelter or engage in income generating activities in the border communities.²⁵⁰

MAP 11 N. population of concern by category

Population breakdown

55,962 Total Population of Concern

25,478 Total Refugees

30,282 Total Asylum-Seekers

202 Total Others of Concern

Geographical distribution



Source: UNHCR

In humanitarian settings, risks to adolescents' rights increase. Adolescents' needs often go unaddressed in humanitarian settings, including adolescent sexual and reproductive health (ASRH) needs. These ASRH needs intensify during emergencies, as family and social structures are disrupted, and existing gender imbalances between men and women are exacerbated. For adolescent girls in humani-

²⁴² HRC, 2019a paras 45-46.

²⁴³ The principal characteristics of mixed migration flows include the irregular nature of and the multiplicity of factors driving such movements, and the differentiated needs and profiles of the persons involved. Mixed flows have been defined as 'complex population movements including refugees, asylum seekers, economic migrants and other migrants. Unaccompanied minors, environmental migrants, smuggled persons, victims of trafficking and stranded migrants, among others, may also form part of a mixed flow. (IOM's 96th Session, Discussion Note: International Dialogue on Migration)

²⁴⁴ HRC, 2019a para 39 (b) and (d).

²⁴⁵ Source: UNHCR (2022). Personal communication based on protection assessments conducted by IOM and UNHCR; CESCR para 23(c).

²⁴⁶ CESCR 2016, para 23; HRC, 2019a para 39.

²⁴⁷ HRC 2019a, para 39(a).

²⁴⁸ Ibid.,

²⁴⁹ Forms of involuntary returns include deportation, evacuation, and flight.

²⁵⁰ UNHCR (2022)..

tarian settings there are higher risks of sexual abuse, exploitation, and violence including sexual violence (including by State security forces),²⁵¹ sexually transmitted infections and/or unwanted pregnancies which increase the likelihood of unsafe abortions. Additionally, in humanitarian settings girls struggle with menstrual hygiene management due to a lack of private water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities, clean water, and disposal options. Adolescent boys also face certain vulnerabilities during crises, including recruitment into armed forces; human trafficking; sexual abuse, exploitation, and violence (including rape); and increase of aggressive and risky behaviors—such as alcohol and drug use, as well as unprotected sex. Unaccompanied boys and young men may also engage in transactional or survival sex, increasing their risk for sexually transmitted infections, including HIV.²⁵²

Pledges at the Global Refugee Forum

During the Global Refugee Forum (GRF) in 2019 in Geneva, the Government of Angola made seven pledges distributed across different thematic focus areas, aiming at supporting refugees and asylum-seekers living in the country and expressing its commitment in front of the international community. The pledges included providing support for the voluntary repatriation for those expressing willingness to return to their countries of origin, to support local integration of those who opt to stay in Angola (including refugees falling under the cessation clauses), to register all refugees and asylum-seekers who reside in Angola and to issue personal identity documents, put in place social protection mechanisms targeting both refugees and host communities to strengthen social cohesion and implementing statelessness protection and prevention mechanisms. Angola has been committed and advancing with pledges implementation, and new ones are expected to be made in the next GRF expected to take place in December 2023.

Source: UNHCR 2022

²⁵¹ CEDAW 2019, para 45.

²⁵² Inter-Agency Working Group on Reproductive Health in Crisis. Fact Sheet on Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health. Cited in UNFPA (2022) SRH Rights in children and adolescents' impact on education and demographic trends analysis- Unpublished.

Migrants²⁵³

Angola is an origin, transit and destination country within the SADC country members and counted approximately 656,400 international migrants by mid-year 2020, which translated to a 2 % international migrant stock as a percentage of the total population in mid-year 2020. At the same time, the emigrant population was 668,100 (Source: UN DESA, 2020). More than 65% of the total population lives in urban areas. Rural-urban migration is usually driven by inadequate infrastructural development, unemployment, and lack of provision of basic social services in rural areas.

Natural disasters, like floods and droughts, have become the main drivers of internal displacement in Angola. March 2021 also saw an influx of 3.400 climate migrants from Angola into Namibia as borderland communities fled the devastating effects of the prolonged drought on their crops and livestock.

Like refugees, migrants have limited or no access to health, education and employment opportunities. Migrants' access to government-funded social services in Angola depends on their migratory status and whether Angola has agreements with their countries of origin, on the principle of reciprocity of health care provision. The Basic Law of the National Health System (1992) states that foreign residents can access the National Health System of Angola only on conditions of reciprocity. Angola signed social security conventions with Portugal and Cabo Verde in 2004 and 2010 respectively, which aim to ensure the principle of reciprocity regarding social protection. However, this is not applicable to other countries. Access to employment in Angola depends on migrant status. Only permanent residents, temporary residents, and migrants with certain categories of temporary stay visas have equal access to employment as nationals.

Emigration is also high in Angola with thousands of nationals living in the diaspora. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MIREX) estimates that about 400,000 Angolan nationals reside abroad, mostly in Africa. High population growth, high unemployment, and comparatively low salaries for skilled professionals in Angola make emigration particularly attractive for this group. The 2021 human flight and brain drain in Africa index indicates that Angola is slightly above (6 points) the world average of 5.25 index points. Diaspora engagement policies and programmes are, however, still limited in Angola.

Human trafficking remains a challenge in Angola. Angola is a Tier 2 country and does not entirely meet the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking despite its efforts to do so. The desire to earn money faster, and poverty are some of the main drivers of human trafficking in Angola, which is a source, transit, and destination country for victims of human trafficking, especially women, and children as young as 12 years old forced to labor or sexual exploitation, and men subjected to forced labor as well. Traffickers exploit Angolans, including children as young as 12 years old, into forced labor in the brickmaking, domestic service, construction, agriculture, fisheries, and artisanal diamond mining sectors.

²⁵³ Source for this section: IOM Angola, 2022.

Lack of data inhibits policy recommendations. Finding accurate or official data on migration and remittances is not easy and existing data is usually incomplete, not analyzed and hardly ever disaggregated by age, sex or level of qualifi-

cation. These difficulties limit and challenge the understanding of national migration trends and flows, making policy recommendations difficult. ●



Selected opportunities

Axis I

(i) Consolidation of the Rule of Law and State Reform(iii) Justice, (iv) Social Communication and Freedom of Expression, (v) Civil Society

Axis III

(i) Health, (ii) Education, (vi) Employment, Entrepreneurship and Professional Training;

Axis IV

(iii) Gender equality, (iv) Family, (v) Children, (vi) Youth

- ✓ Presidential Decree no.100/2020 established Local Human Rights Committees (LHRC) integrated by public entities and members of civil society, acting at the provincial and local levels, whose purpose is the implementation of the National Human Rights Strategy. However, to be credible, it is important that the committees are perceived to be independent and not politically biased.
- ✓ The election of new parliamentarians and more women in positions of political power at all levels may present new opportunities for the UN to support the government in following-up on UPR recommendations for the rights of women, girls and children (as well as other groups mentioned above) including through the Tenth Commission of the National Assembly, which focuses on human rights.
- ✓ The upcoming review of the Family Code presents opportunities to ban child marriage and enshrine the right to same sex legal unions in Angolan legislation. However, efforts to change the law will amount to benefit for rural girls and women if customary law custodians /traditional leaders are not involved. It will be important to invest in awareness raising activities at community level in rural areas and start the slow process of mindset change.
- ✓ The upcoming 2024 census provides an opportunity to collect official statistics on sexual orientation and fill the current data gaps to enable better policies targeting LGBTIQ+ needs in health and education, among other areas such as also collecting disaggregated data on the enjoyment of rights by PWD, indigenous peoples etc. This could present an opportunity to advocate for the recognition of same sex marriage and LGBTIQ+ rights. Finally, the National Institute for the Fight against AIDS is currently revising the Law on HIV/AIDS, which provides an entry point to expand recognition of, and responsiveness to the needs of the community.
- ✓ At the 73rd session of the UNHCR's Executive Committee meeting held in Geneva in October 2022, the Secretary of State for External Affairs stated that general registration of refugees and asylum-seekers are expected to be resumed by December 2022 and that the government is committed to the elimination of statelessness. This provides agencies working with migrants and refugees with an opportunity to co-design programmes in collaboration with agencies working on health, education and gender empowerment programmes, strengthening the humanitarian-development nexus in a coordinated manner.

Multidimensional SDG Risk Analysis



4

The multidimensional risks analysis looks at the issues that could potentially impact the trajectory of the SDGs as well as the priority areas of the AU Agenda 2063. In the case of Angola, these include political stability, democratic governance, rule of law, regional and global influences, economic stability, impact of climate change, demographic growth and gender equality, access to social services and infrastructure, food security and social inclusion. A positive or negative development regarding one of these issues can have a direct impact in other issues and their associated SDGs. Looking at them through a multi-dimensional risk lens, these issues can be grouped through the dimensions of political, climate, economic, and social risks.

Political risks: In spite of initial contestations of results by the opposition following the 2022 national elections, the outcome was finally accepted after a ruling of the Constitutional Court and a scenario of widespread social disruption and conflict was avoided. At the same time, freedom of expression, access to justice and the use of force in demonstrations remain problematic. **Real or perceived bias in media coverage** and limited media freedom have detrimental impacts on the consolidation of democracy and combined, these factors may lead to more protests.

The democratic governance deficits discussed in this report, combined with anti-corruption efforts to be upscaled, may also be used as arguments by the opposition and youth to initiate a new wave of protests sparked by local elections. Meanwhile, strikes due to the socioeconomic situation continue by different sectors including teachers and health professionals.

Climate risks: The impacts of climate change entail several types of risks. Migrations may exacerbate tensions with neighboring countries and at the same time cause disruptions and conflicts as communities struggle with limited resources. Floods present a risk to health and loss of life and property in urban areas and drought leads to food insecurity and malnutrition. Coping strategies such as consuming seeds meant for planting lead to a vicious circle of hunger and poverty, as communities are deprived of their means of survival in the following year. Critically, climate

change impacts affect infrastructure such as ports, roads, energy distribution, and sectors like fisheries, aquaculture and agriculture, which have enormous consequences for the economy.

Economic Risks: The current **economic stabilization and growth prospects remain still too dependent on volatility of oil prices and local currency exchange rate** and risks here can only be mitigated by the outcome of the country diversification efforts. This is made more urgent by the global decarbonization agenda and the depletion and maturity of oil fields.

However, structural change of the economy towards diversification will take time to yield results and in the meanwhile the fragile economic fabric is not yet able to cope with the high demographic and urbanization growth trends, generating a sufficient number of productive formal jobs. Coupled with **the high unmet need for family planning, limited diversification enhances unemployment and social unrest risks for the future.**

Social Risks: As long as **investments continue to lag behind population growth**, there will not be enough resources to provide social services from education to family planning, including health and social protection, leading to more people being trapped in poverty, especially women and children.

Demographic growth trends also have a profound impact on land use and land transformation, leading to enhanced risks of human-animal conflicts, deforestation and soil degradation, increased vulnerability to natural disasters, and the extinction of species and loss of biodiversity.

Following announcements that the **government would regularize the situation of migrants and refugees**, there are now expectations among these groups, which, if unfulfilled, may lead to further disruptions, which could be met by force. At the same time, once documented, these groups will be competing for already meager resources, job opportunities and public services, which could exacerbate grievances among local populations.

Through its seven axes, the National Development Plan (NDP 2023-2027) seeks to directly address most of these risks and as such, ensure an upward trajectory of the SDGs. The draft national budget for 2023 is indicative of the Government's commitment to improve key socioeconomic areas (see section below). The UNSDCF (2024-2027), will be designed in conjunction with the Government of Angola in order to directly address and/or mitigate an important portion of these risks, as listed below in more detail.

TABLE 14 Risks by key socioeconomic areas

Area	Risks	Likelihood
Political stability	Delays in the organisation of local elections	High
	Protests/unrest following allegations of frauds during local elections	Medium
	Lack of meaningful participation of youth and minorities in the public affairs	High
	Tensions related to border management	Medium
	Impact of the continued anti-corruption efforts perceived as selective and politicised	Low
Democratic space	Increasing protests/manifestations/strikes and use of excessive force	Low
	Restrictions of freedom of peaceful assembly	Medium
	Pressure on human rights defenders, CSOs and journalists	Medium
	Pressure/restrictions on freedom of expression and information, self-censorship of media, abusive regulation of media	High
	Limited publication and/or reliability of statistical data	Medium
Justice and the rule of law	Further delays in decentralisation efforts	Medium
	Limited investment in strengthening the judicial system, in increasing the access to justice by the most vulnerable individuals and groups	High
	Lack of accountability of security forces, in particular for human rights violations	High
	Delays in establishing a Paris Principles-compliant National human rights Institution	Medium
	Delays or waning political will in implementing anti-corruption strategy	Medium
Regional and global influences	Increasing regional instability and migrations	Medium
	Expulsions of migrants and asylum seekers accompanied by arbitrary detention and ill-treatments	Medium
	Poor border management	High
	Climate change displacement impacts	High
Gender equality	Limited efforts in curbing root causes of lower female completion rates in schools	Medium
	Limited investment in family planning	Medium
	Continued lack of protection for gender-based violence	High
	Limited efforts in job formalization and in extending social protection especially for women	Medium
Economic Stability	Declining oil prices and/or production and limited economic diversification	Medium
	Rising international and national inflation	Medium
	LCU Exchange rate depreciation	Medium
	Drastic reduction of debt restructuring support initiatives and high debt/GDP ratio	High
	Continued high levels of (youth) unemployment, informality, poverty and inequality	High

Area	Risks	Likelihood
Access to social services & economic infrastructure	Insufficient investments in education, health and social protection	High
	WASH investments limited to urban areas deepening urban-rural divide	High
	Lack of sufficient housing and water and sanitation, expanding musseques, as well as forced evictions	High
LNOB	Limited implementation of human rights recommendations and programmes to enhance protection of vulnerable groups, including LGBTQI+ persons, people with HIV, disabilities, refugees, migrants, stateless people, people deprived of their liberty, human rights defenders	Medium
	Insufficient investment in the collection of disaggregated data	High
Food security, agriculture and land degradation	Continuing high food inflation and food import dependence	Medium
	Unaddressed droughts and food insecurity	High
	Deforestation continuing unabated with forest fires contributing to soil degradation	High
Environment and climate	Accelerated effects of climate change leading to more disasters	High
	Declining investments in disaster risk prevention and management	Low
	Blue economy goals affected by climate change	High
	Poor business environment not facilitating investments in clean energy	Medium
	Lack of capacity to attract climate finance leading to missed opportunities	Medium



Financial landscape and SDGs partnerships analysis



Government budget 2023

The draft national budget of 2023 (OGE 2023)²⁵⁴ marks a turning point in increasing the shares of social and economic envelopes from 19% and 7.5% to almost 24% and 10% of the total budget respectively between 2022 and 2023, partly at the expense of general public services undergoing a major cut of almost 13% on a yearly basis. The shares allocated to education and health increased from 6.6% and 4.8% to 7.7% and 6.7% respectively, while the social protection share remained stable at 3.4% in the same period.

The viability of the proposed national budget for 2023 rests on the following projections: a) reference price of USD 75 per barrel of oil, and average oil production of 1.18 million barrels per day; b) inflation rate of 11.1 %; c) real GDP growth of 3.3 %, compared to the 2.7 % growth forecast for 2022.

However, it is important also to note that when moving to the execution of the national budget, actual expenditure rates in the socio-economic sectors tended to be historically lower than for other areas in the past years. For instance, in the first semester of 2022, expenditure rates for education, health and social protection were below 20%, compared to 40% for defence and security²⁵⁵.

TABLE 15 Draft national budget 2023: trends in allocations and shares (2021-2023)

Area	2021		2022		2023			% change 2022-23
	B Kz	% tot	B Kz	% tot	B Kz	% tot	% GDP	
All Social Sectors*	2,805.5	19	3,597.3	19.2	4,798.6	23.9	7.9	33.4
Education	1,023.1	6.9	1,241.8	6.6	1,553.2	7.7	2.5	25.1
Health	851.1	5.7	923.5	4.9	1,339.9	6.7	2.2	45.1
Social Protection	561.0	3.8	655	3.5	688.5	3.4	1.1	5.1
Housing incl. W&S	314.3	2.1	706.2	3.8	1,112.7	5.5	1.8	57.6
Environment protection	10.4	0.1	13.9	0.1	24.8	0.1	0.0	78.3
Culture, religion	45.4	0.3	56.9	0.3	79.5	0.4	0.1	39.6
All Economic Sectors*	1,078.6	7.3	1,380.4	7.4	2,011.4	10	3.3	45.7
Agriculture, fisheries	274.3	1.8	324.4	1.7	412.3	2.1	0.7	27.1
Transport infrastructure	318.3	2.1	508.7	2.7	585.2	2.9	1	15
Energy and fuels	402.2	2.7	416.1	2.2	785.7	3.9	1.3	88.8
Industry (non-oil)	34.1	0.2	67.8	0.4	122.6	0.6	0.2	80.9
Communication, ICT	16.6	0.1	25.5	0.1	29.2	0.1	0.0	14.6
General public services	1,769.3	12	2,882.9	15.4	2,509.9	12.5	4.1	-12.9
Defense and security	1,336.1	9	1,578.2	8.4	1,720.2	8.6	2.8	9
Public debt service	7,795.6	52.7	9,306.6	49.6	9,064.1	45.1	14.9	-2.6
Total	14,785	100	18,745	100	20,104	100	33	7.2

* Only selected subsectors below

²⁵⁴ MINFIN, 2022c.

²⁵⁵ MINFIN, 2022a.



The growth of allocations accruing to education and health stands well above the inflation rate (16.7% in October 2022), at 25% and 45% respectively, with social protection settling below at 5%. This is notable considering that the overall annual nominal increase of the OGE 2023 is only 7.2% below the inflation rate. Thanks also to the significant fiscal surplus in 2021 (almost Kz 800 billion), the debt servicing share over the total budget is planned to decline from 51% in 2022 to 45% in 2023, boosting the growth of primary budget just above the inflation rate.

Among the social sectors, the allocation to housing and community services experienced the highest growth rate (57.6%) after environment protection that almost doubled from Kz 13.9 billion in 2022 to Kz 24.8 billion in 2023, with water and sanitation received a minor boost of around 21%.

In the education sector, preschool education sees its budget quintupled from the previous national budget, followed by professional and technical education (+55%), and with the higher education allocation (+35.5%) growing faster than secondary (31%) and especially primary education (4.4%).

The economic planned fiscal package foresees increasing investments in energy, fuels and the industrial sectors, with significant growth of related allocations both in relative and real terms (above 80%), followed by agriculture/fisheries (27%), transport and ICT communications (around 15%). Among the economic sectors, forestry (+280%), construction (+125%) and mining (97%) are worth noting, with traditional sectors like agriculture (+25%) and oil/gas (34%) still drawing a large amount of the economic envelope. Among infrastructure, electricity (+175%) and river transport (+103%) grew at the expense of railroad (-48%) and air (-37%) transport.

Selected findings from the iSDG model simulations

The integrated SDG (iSDG) Model has been implemented in Angola to provide tools and capacities to the GoA to identify SDGs accelerators, by simulating how additional investments in areas²⁵⁶ similar to those prioritized in the new NDP might contribute to the achievement of the SDGs, under different scenarios. The draft final report²⁵⁷ shows that in the most likely scenario, if additional investments in these areas follow the previous patterns, Angola would achieve 25% of all SDGs targets, calculated as the average performance for the 17 goals by 2030. With additional investments of 4% - 5% of GDP every year in the period 2022-2030 in these areas, the achievement would rise up to 39%.

FIGURE 46 Average SDGs Performance in 2030 (% of achievement of SDGs)



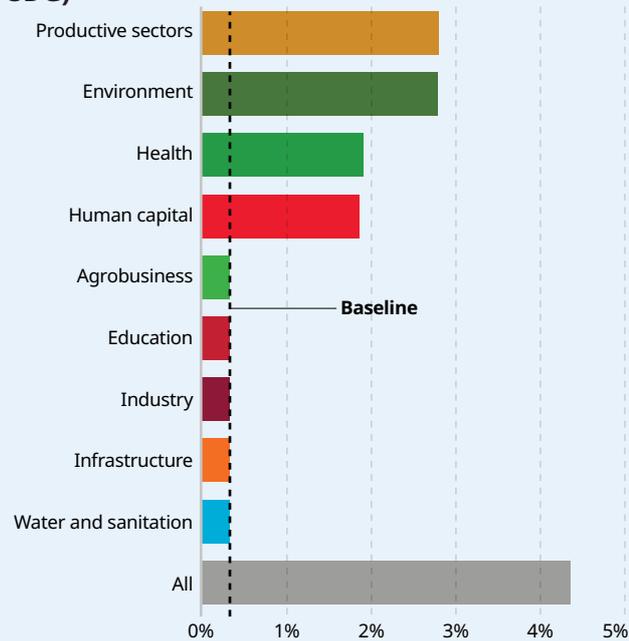
Source: iSDG Model Report (unpublished)

²⁵⁶ These are agribusiness, manufacturing, environment, health, education, infrastructure, water & sanitation.

²⁵⁷ The findings were discussed at a workshop with the GoA on the 27th October 2022 in Luanda.

The same report identifies additional investments in climate resilience and in strengthening the health sector as the main accelerators for ending poverty and alleviating inequality at least in the short term, while also contrasting the negative impact of declining oil prices and production. Overall, adaptation to climate change and protecting natural resources is the primary driver for attaining SDGs 1, 13, 14, and 15 and work in synergy with the productive sectors (SDGs 8, 9), eventually alleviating also inequalities. Additional investments in health, and especially family planning, have the second highest return on investments, due especially to positive impact on the female population and on the demographic dividend in the long term.

FIGURE 47 Goal 1 performance in 2030 by category of additional investments compared to without investments (% of achievement of SDG)



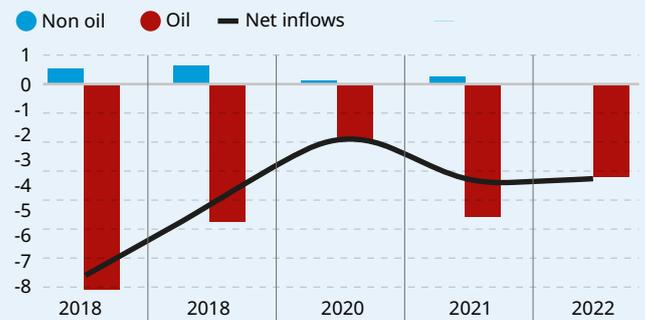
Source: iSDG Model Report (unpublished)

FDI Trends

The downward trend affecting FDI inflows to Angola continued in 2021. Heavily dependent on the oil industry, the economy suffered another year of significant divestment in the sector. Preliminary data by the National Bank of Angola show that this trend has persisted in the first semester of 2022. As a result of the sharp reduction in inflows, the FDI stock, which stood at USD 32.5 billion in 2010, fell by more than 150 % to reach USD 13.2 billion in 2021.

FDI in the non-oil sectors were not as affected as FDI in oil, with positive values over 2018-2021, and it more than doubled between 2020 and 2021 (from USD 113 million to USD 248 million). However, non-oil FDI declined sharply in the first semester of 2022 and amounted to about USD 17 million. In general, the volumes of non-oil FDI have remained very low until now, limiting the capacity to diversify the economy through this source of finance.

FIGURE 48 Net FDI inflows to Angola (Billion USD)



Source: BNA

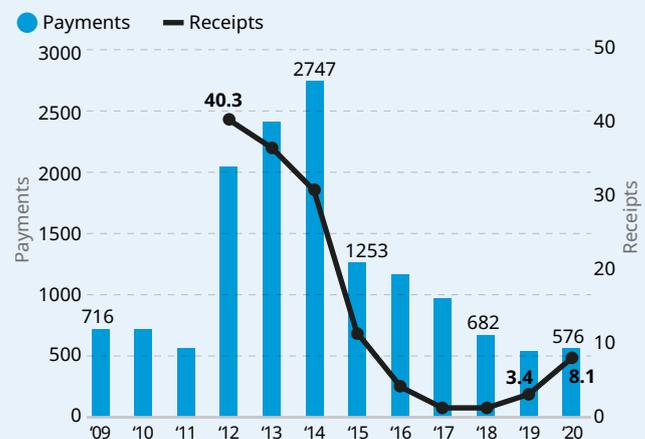
Angola also entered into additional commitments in view of protecting foreign investments. On the 1st September 2021, Angola ratified the International Convention on the Settlement of Investment Disputes between States and Nationals of Other States (ICSID Convention).²⁵⁸

Measures to improve the business environment, emphasized in the new NDP guidelines, will be key to attract FDI in the future.

Remittances and Official Development Assistance

Angola is affected by massive capital outflows from remittances, compensation of workers and compensation for owners of capital (Figure x). From 2009 to 2014, the country experienced significant increase in outflows in remittances (payments) from USD 716 million in 2009 to USD 2.7 billion in 2014, all related to capital inflows in the oil sector. The decline in 2015-2020 in outflows from USD 1.2 billion in 2015 to USD 576 million in 2020 is important in closing the Balance of Payments gap, but that also coincides with the sharp decline in personal remittance receipts from USD 40 million in 2012 to only USD 1.6 m in 2018. Receipts recovered slightly in 2019 and 2020 to close at USD 8.1 million.

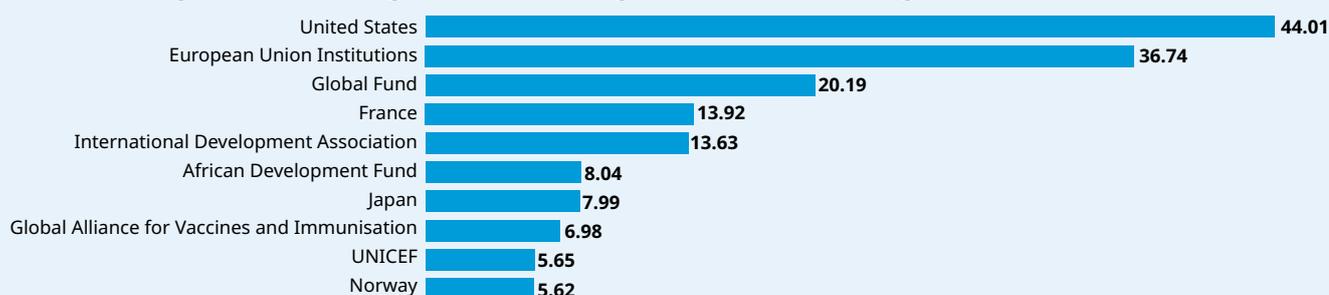
FIGURE 49 Personal remittances flows for Angola: payments and receipts (Million USD)



Source: OECD

²⁵⁸ Resolution n.º 63/21, 1st September 2021.

FIGURE 50 Top ten donors of gross ODA for Angola, 2019-2020 average (Million USD)



Source: OECD

Traditionally Angola has not attracted significant ODA, especially when compared to other Sub-Saharan African countries. Gross ODA for Angola has been on a steady decline, from USD 380 million in 2015 to USD 184 million in 2020, based on new OECD calculations, far below countries like Tanzania (USD 2.5 billion) or Nigeria (USD 3.7 billion) in 2020. Between 2019 and 2020, the top ten donors were headed by the United States with an average of USD 44 Million, followed by the European Union (EU) Institutions with a combined average of USD 36.74 million.

During the same period, the Global Fund contributed to raising the share of ODA to health to 27% in terms of sectoral distribution, surpassed by other social infrastructure and services at 38%, followed by production at 16%, while education and humanitarian aid received 7% and 3% of the total respectively.

The automatic graduation of Angola from LDC in 2024 provides the GoA with an opportunity to outline a transition strategy to better make use of international cooperation and further mobilize ODAs and concessional loans for its development objectives. In the context of the Fifth UN Conference on Least Developed Countries (LDC5) and Doha Programme of Action (DPoA), the CPD-DESA designed and presented the iGRAD (Sustainable Graduation Support Facility) a country-led, partnership-based, global facility, to assist LDCs move up and out from the category, transition smoothly and achieve sustainable and irreversible graduation. Among others, this facility can help Angola in addressing the loss of existing LDC-specific international support measures (ISMs), and improve its ability to access non-LDC-specific support.

SDG Financing and capital markets

Considering the still limited non-oil FDIs and ODAs, attracting domestic resources and rationalizing the expanding fiscal space to achieve the new NDP and SDGs objectives will be key.

In this direction, the development of an Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF) in Angola could support strengthening the financing of the national priorities set out in the NDP and enhancing their alignment with SDGs. The framework includes a wide range of funding sources – public and private, domestic and international. More than 80 countries have already adopted it.

The first step to establishing an INFF is to carry out a Development Financing Assessment (DFA) and this would help also in refining and deepening this financial landscape analysis. The DFA guides the country's options for scaling up financing for national development, including identifying financing gaps, risks, and actions needed to mobilize the necessary resources to achieve the national priorities aligned with the SDGs.

Tapping into capital markets is also increasingly offering opportunities for investing in SDGs: responsible investment strategies, from exclusion lists to impact investing, have grown to USD 30.7 trillion in 2018²⁵⁹. New markets and asset classes have emerged: the green bond market increased from virtually zero in 2010 to over USD 200 billion in 2019²⁶⁰. Moreover, the digitalization of finance has also opened new venues. Globally, the financial markets and investors have positively reacted, by starting to demand and claim a stronger integration of the SDGs in public and private investment decisions and this trend starts being seen also in Angola.

In 2021, the trading volume of securities on the Angolan stock exchange market (BODIVA) reached almost Kz 1 trillion, down from almost Kz 1.2 trillion in 2020. More interestingly, in 2021 collective investment undertakings increased from Kz 420 billion to Kz 510 billion²⁶¹. The major player, Hemera Capital Partners, holding 50% of total investment values, registered a new investment fund, called "Dual Impact Fund" at the beginning of 2022, mobilizing so far around Kz 3 billion²⁶², with the objectives to contribute to several SDGs.

Institutional capacities and partnerships for SDGs

Overall, the institutional framework for implementing the SDGs in Angola is highly centralized. The Ministry of Economy and Planning remains engaged in convening inter-ministerial and other bodies in charge of steering and coordinating implementation of SDGs. Direct involvement of sectors with cross-cutting influence, such as ministry of finance, and non-state actors is limited. This seems also to apply to the engagement of sub-national levels of governments.



²⁵⁹ Global Sustainable Investment Alliance, 2018.

²⁶⁰ The Climate Bonds Initiative, 2022.

²⁶¹ CMC, 2021.

²⁶² Hemera Capital Partners.

Angola has not taken any actions so far to promote the localization of the SDGs. Political power and economic planning remain highly centralized. The possible establishment of locally elected government in the future might be an opportunity to promote the localization of the SDGs. However, local participation of citizens and civil society organizations tend to be weak, particularly outside the capital of Luanda.

Five areas can be identified as having substantial impact on institutional arrangements and implementations of the SDGs in the Angolan context:

1. **Ad hoc initiatives for the integration of the SDGs into national government processes and plans: the country has never been able to establish a functional Steering and Monitoring Committee of the SDG or a permanent SDG working Group in the country. The Ministry of Economy has occasionally established temporary inter-agency mechanism for the SDGs for specific events and activities, normally for the reporting purposes with responsibility to review the implementation progress and strengthening policy coordination and communication. In 2018, the level of integration of SDGs in the National Development Plan was assessed at around 52%²⁶³.**
2. **Limited disaggregated data by region and vulnerable segments of society: mainstreaming the SDGs in sectoral ministries is limited to the availability of data especially in environmental sector. Relevant ministries are facing challenges to elaborating their action plans, evaluating progress and reporting mechanisms and identify their responsibilities vis-à-vis specific SDGs. Practically, there is no SDGs profiles at sectoral level.**
3. **Limited SDG engagement (dialogue, planning and budgeting) at sub-national levels (Provincial and Municipal): SDGs discourse is almost absent at local level. Lack of human resource capacities, budget constraints and limited participatory practices at local are having considerable impact on the alignment of Municipal Development Plan with SDGs. The Municipal Participatory Budget Initiative is crucial and could allow more ownership of the SDGs by the local authorities to deliver a wide range of public services that are at the heart of realizing the SDGs.**
4. **Limited advocacy and oversight of the legislative function: there are still limited structures of accountability and engagement with CSOs for advocacy and with parliaments through their legislative, budgetary and oversight functions. The Angolan parliament has nine relevant parliamentary committees that could be used to mainstream and oversee the implementation of the SDGs. At the moment there is an initiative for dialogue and establishment of linkages with the parliament and SDGs.**

5. Mobilizing the private sector for SDGs: the lack of permanent institutions for multi-stakeholder participation and strategic communication has thwarted the private sector contribution to the achievement of SDG in Angola.

The involvement and partnership alliance with the private sector while attracting and steering domestic investment in the direction of SDGs **can provide a fundamental help to GoA efforts for accelerating its achievement of Agenda 2030 targets.** In 2021 a survey by UNDP and PwC confirmed the potential is there, with 67% of surveyed companies referring to SDGs in their reports, and 76% being aware of SDGs (UNDP and PwC, 2021). Among others, also the UN Global Compact is present in Angola mobilizing companies in different sectors to provide a framework for developing a more sustainable and responsible business, in line with SDGs.

In 2020, the Government of Angola had established the SDG Platform, a multi-stakeholder forum to dialogue on the SDGs. The Platform was created as an inclusive working and concerting mechanism, considering all points of view, from public power decisions, and the perspectives of the private sector, civil society, academia, faith-based institutions, development, implementors of development programs, and beneficiaries.

Based on the commitment of the Angolan Government, the Platform for the SDGs in Angola was established with the following objectives:

- i). **Ensure ownership by all sectors of the Government's commitment to meeting the SDG targets and producing voluntary national reports, based on permanent and empirical analysis of the state of progress.**
- ii). **Mobilize all available national resources and capacities towards the cause of the fulfillment of the African Union Agendas 2030 and 2063;**
- iii). **Coordinate efforts between the public, private and social sectors, as well as development partners.**

The platform led to the elaboration of the Voluntary National Review (VNR) in 2021. However, since then it has remained inactive and participation on the implementation of the SDGs remains limited.

Recent efforts are in place by the UN Resident Coordinator Office to revive the platform under the partnerships with the private sector for the achievement of the SDGs. The RCO is taking the lead in facilitating, coordinating and demonstrating how public-private collaboration can effectively translate the SDGs into action on the ground and thereby guide and accelerate innovation, impact, maximize investments and optimize the use of resources in support of realization of the Angola Vision 2030. ●

²⁶³ United Nations (2018).

Conclusions



6

Angola is at a fundamental crossroads in its history, with an important opportunity to drive the necessary acceleration to the implementation of democratic and economic reforms, consolidating the social contract with its people²⁶⁴, rooted in human rights, while addressing the major structural challenges of the country, including the need to strengthen accountability, democratic space, public sector capacity and clamp down on corruption, and to invest more in its human capital to achieve economic diversification.

A stronger and renewed social contract between the government and Angolan society will need to emerge from the political process following the results of national elections, in order to reverse the significant gender, age, rural-urban divide and inequalities across the Angolan society. Voter expectations and high abstention levels could exert additional pressure to the Government to address deep-rooted inequalities, including prioritizing the needs of minorities and those left behind. However, limiting freedom of expression and control the media could be used as tactics to retain support. Addressing especially the current grievances and demands of youth will be crucial for the long-term development and social stability of the country.

Three pressing factors make these reforms towards democracy and diversification even more urgent: a) the global decarbonization agenda and the depletion and maturity of oil fields²⁶⁵; b) the increasing negative socio-economic impact from Climate Change; c) the unrelenting high demographic growth rate with an increasing number of youth entering the work force while the economic system is not able to absorb them with a sufficient number of productive jobs.

Out of these three pressing factors, the envisaged transition to **sustainable and inclusive economic diversification** to reduce the vulnerability from oil and impact of climate change becomes a “question of life and death”, using the words of the President of Angola²⁶⁶. As the new NDP 2023-27 clearly identifies among its top priorities, accelerating investment in human capital as the fundamental driver of this change is not an option anymore.

Selected priorities for next UNSDCF

Strengthen democratic governance and public sector capacity to enhance accountability for the implementation of human rights and the inclusiveness of political and socio-economic reforms

Support structural economic transformation towards sustainable and inclusive economic diversification

²⁶⁴ Please see United Nations, 2021.

²⁶⁵ Fitch estimates a reduction of 20% of oil production by 2031. Novo Jornal, 2022.

²⁶⁶ Jornal de Angola, 2022b.

The draft National Budget for 2023 takes advantage of the increased fiscal space and sends a positive signal on the renewed interest of the GoA in investing in human capital, especially health and education. The doubled allocation to environment protection, though still a negligible fraction of total budget, is also a positive step in the direction of investing national resources to enhance resilience to the climate change.

However, effecting the envisaged structural socio-economic transformation of the country towards a more inclusive and sustainable development model is not a short-term endeavour as investments in building the appropriate human capital and infrastructure, moving up the technology ladder, take time to yield results. In a pressing context urging quick solutions, it is important to develop a clear strategy of short, medium and long-term priorities, as on one side poverty, unemployment and hunger cannot wait for the structural change to happen and, on the other side, the same issues will not be structurally addressed and will get worse without structural transformation.

Strengthen health service coverage with focus on SRH/ family planning and the fight against infectious diseases

In line with the results of recent analysis, including the iSDG model simulations²⁶⁷, **investing in health and climate change resilience would yield the most immediate results to curb poverty reduction and increase life expectancy.** Within the health sector, enhancing efforts to **expand family planning support** will be crucial in the short-term, along with strengthening **the fight against malaria, TB and HIV/AIDS.** The OGE 2023 presents an opportunity of accelerating investments in these areas.

Enhance climate change resilience for protecting people and national food systems

Natural disasters can quickly wipe out development gains. Prevention is more cost-effective than reconstruction and Angola needs to urgently invest in building its adaptive capacity to protect its population and food systems from the worst impacts of drought, floods, coastal erosion, sea level rise and warming temperatures. The implementation of the NDC will be of great importance for Angola to tackle these challenges as well as to uphold the commitment made within the Paris agreement.

Expand the social protection floor to the poorest and left behind

At the same time, **expanding the social protection floor to the poorest and left behind will be also crucial in the short-term.** Evidence in this report shows cash-transfer programmes like Kwenda can be effective in curbing poverty in the short term. In this area, public investments as planned in OGE 2023 are still inadequate.

Invest in quality education for all, with special focus on removing barriers to girls' education, and on TVET for inclusive economic transformation

Investments in education and technical vocational training represent the fundamental drivers of change but will yield most results in the medium and long term for the structural transformation of Angola. However, efforts to build a more inclusive, relevant and quality education system should start now and especially address **the gender, rural-urban** and other still significant **gaps.** The draft national budget for 2023 confirmed the NDP renewed interest in boosting investment in this sector.

Investing in women's education is not only a human right per se but would yield high returns to the whole economy, with positive effects on disposable income, generating more productivity and contributing to sustainable and inclusive diversification. A combination of factors, from dropping out of school, child marriage, adolescent pregnancy, gender ba-

²⁶⁷ See also World Bank, 2022d.

sed violence and poor reproductive health services contribute to the demographic boom and to the limited participation of women in paid jobs, which translates into less resources for health and education per capita and less income for women themselves.

As Angola modernizes, **it is important to find ways to integrate civil law into cultural practices based on customary law.** In this regard, the State has an important role to play in raising awareness of traditional leaders to uphold the rights of girls and women in communities. Promoting the well-being of the girls and ensuring that they have opportunities for education translated in health and economic dividends for communities and for the country as a whole.

While the macroeconomic still vulnerable scenario offers a window of opportunity in the short term for investments in human development and capabilities, **it will be also critical to reform the national taxation and price subsidies system for rebalancing public investment in the direction of a more equitable and inclusive socio-economic development trajectory.** This CCA has indeed shown the regressive effects of fuel price subsidies system, contributing to the inequality in the country.

Support policy solutions and reforms for a more equitable development trajectory

In the process of structural change towards diversification, Angola should avoid falling into the so-called Dutch disease trap: policies should focus on providing incentives and infrastructures to the structural transformation of the economy, avoiding easy solutions, like exchange rate overvaluation to and consequent imports dependency, and rather direct investments to sectors, like manufacturing and **sustainable food systems**, that at these levels of GDPs can boost productivity, value added and employment creation, while at the same time **reduce food insecurity and malnutrition.**

Promote investments in key transformative sectors for diversification, strengthening sustainable food systems for enhanced food security

Supporting multi-sectoral solutions across SDGs will be also pivotal in tackling more challenges at the same time. For instance, investment in adequate housing for the most vulnerable population could ensure safeguarding of socioeconomic conditions of beneficiaries, and at the same time allow for boosting the national construction sector, whilst also having effect on other economic sectors (transport, machinery, etc.). Investment in adequate housing means also better health and educational conditions, which in turn push overall socioeconomic development.

Foster innovative partnerships and multi-sectoral financing solutions for SDGs, especially with the private sector

In a still vulnerable context with limited non-oil FDI, **leveraging the currently expanding fiscal space**, while **fostering strategic partnerships with the private sector** in Angola and through innovative SDG financing will be key for the envisaged socio-economic transformation of Angola.

From the perspective of the humanitarian development peace nexus, promoting the inclusion of those left behind from a humanitarian angle, while emphasizing the important role they can play in advancing the political, and socio-economic development agenda of the country should also be pursued.

Support HDP solutions for the inclusion of those left behind

In line with the findings of this CCA, below flows a list of other selected opportunities and recommendations identified for the next UNSDF /National Development Plan cycle: ²⁶⁸

Politics and Governance

- ✓ The decentralization process, including the holding of local elections, presents opportunities to orient the national budget and puts priorities closer to citizen demands, especially youth demanding more accountability, social services and quality employment opportunities.
- ✓ As asset recovery efforts intensify, Angola could recover up to USD 80 billion, that could be used for long-term investments in key socio-economic sectors. To that end, it will be important to consolidate gains in anti-corruption, have a national strategy and review legislation related to asset recovery, administration of confiscated assets, effective beneficiaries and Politically Exposed Persons.

Economic Transformation and Inequality

- ✓ In line with the positive macro-economic scenario, another budget surplus is expected for the fiscal year 2022. This could further accelerate investments in human capital and infrastructure, as planned in the NDP 2023-2027 and confirmed by the significant increase of the socio-economic development envelope in the draft national budget for 2023.
- ✓ The full implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) could help boosting intra-African trade and thus promoting activity and employment in non-oil sectors.
- ✓ The automatic graduation of Angola from LDC in 2024 provides the GoA with an opportunity to outline a transition strategy to better make use of available international support measures.

Social Development and Exclusion

- ✓ WASH investments play an important role as better water access decreases under 5 mortality rate by approximately 7%. When combined with resource allocation on other social areas, investments in WASH could reduce under 5 mortality rate up to 20%
- ✓ Investments in Health and Climate Change Adaptation can make a significant contribution to poverty reduction. Healthy children and youth are able to attend school and increase their chances of employment later. Investments in climate change adaptation reduce the impact of natural disasters and the economic consequences for households.

Climate and Environment

- ✓ Infrastructure, the environment, climate change adaptation and forest management have been flagged by the President as some of his key priorities. There is a recognition that investments in Angola's adaptive capacity protect investments in infrastructure and translate into better economic outcomes. In addition, prioritizing climate change adaptation translates into safeguarding Angolan urban and rural communities from some of the worst impacts of climate change. The HDP nexus should be further explored to achieve this goal.

²⁶⁸ These are developed out in more detail at the end of each of the preceding chapters.

- ✓ Angola has an energy sector Action Plan (Energia 2025) and an unmet need for clean energy. Mitigation activities that include public-private partnerships for increased access to clean energy, and infrastructure present the double advantage of preventing increased GHG emissions and attracting FDI while offering access to better public services. Although the market potential is significant due to the number of people without energy access, there is the need to improve the business environment in order to attract private investments. Low subsidized tariffs contribute to prevent the private sector from investing in this area.
- ✓ Angola has rich access to renewable energy sources, such as the sun, and needs to promote a just and inclusive energy transition through investments in both the electricity grid and in off-grid renewable systems. There is an urgent need to accelerate equal access to green energy to be able to lift the population out of energy poverty and enable sustainable development.
- ✓ The Government is interested in the protection of biodiversity and in fighting illegal wildlife trade. It may be a candidate for funding resulting from the United Nations Biodiversity Conference (COP 15) in December 2022.

LNOB and Human Rights

- ✓ Presidential Decree no.100/2020 established Local Human Rights Committees (LHRC) integrated by public entities and members of civil society, acting at the provincial and local levels, whose purpose is the implementation of the National Human Rights Strategy.
- ✓ The election of new parliamentarians and more women in positions of political power at all levels may present new opportunities for the UN to support the government in following-up on UPR recommendations for the rights of women, girls and children and other groups.
- ✓ The upcoming review of the Family Code presents opportunities to ban child marriage and enshrine the right to same sex legal unions in Angolan legislation. However, efforts to change the law will amount to benefit for rural girls and women if customary law custodians /traditional leaders are not involved. It will be important to invest in awareness raising activities at community level in rural areas and start the slow process of mindset change.
- ✓ The government has announced that the general registration of refugees and asylum-seekers is expected to be resumed by December 2022 and that Angola is committed to the elimination of statelessness. ●

Annexes

7

ANNEX I

LIST OF REFERENCES

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ANNEX II

STATUS OF SELECTED COMMITMENTS UNDER INTERNATIONAL TREATIES AND AGREEMENTS

TABLE 16

	Ratified
A) International Human Rights and Refugee Law	
The Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees	1976
Convention governing the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa	1981
Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)	1986
Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)	1990
International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (CCPR)	1992
International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (CESCR)	1992
Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children child prostitution and child pornography	2005
Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict	2007
African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa	2013
Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (CED). Signed in 2014	-
Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)	2014
Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children	2014
Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air	2014
Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD)	2019
Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT)	2019
Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming to the abolition of the death penalty	2019
Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons	2019
Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness	2020
B) International labour law	
Forced Labour Convention	1976
Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention	1976
Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention	2001
Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention	2001
Domestic Workers Convention	-
Migration for Employment Convention (Revised)	-
Social Protection Floors Recommendation	-
Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention	-
C) International Criminal Law	
Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC)	1998
Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide	2001
United Nations Convention against Corruption	2006
D) Environmental agreements	
United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	1997
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) (1992)	2000
Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Kyoto Protocol)	2007
Istanbul Declaration and Programme of Action	2011
Addis Ababa Action Agenda	2015
Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction	2015
Samoa Pathway	2015
Paris Agreement on Climate Change	2020

Source: [UN Treaty Body database](#)

ANNEX III

LIST OF PARTICIPATING ENTITIES AND INTERVIEWED PEOPLE

TABLE 17

Members of the CCA Inter-Agency Task Force

AfDB	FAO	IFAD	ILO	IMF	IOM
OHCHR	UNAIDS	UNCTAD	UNDP	UNECA	UNFPA
UN-Habitat	UNHCR	UNICEF	UNODC	WB	WFP
WHO					

List of CCA Thematic Groups

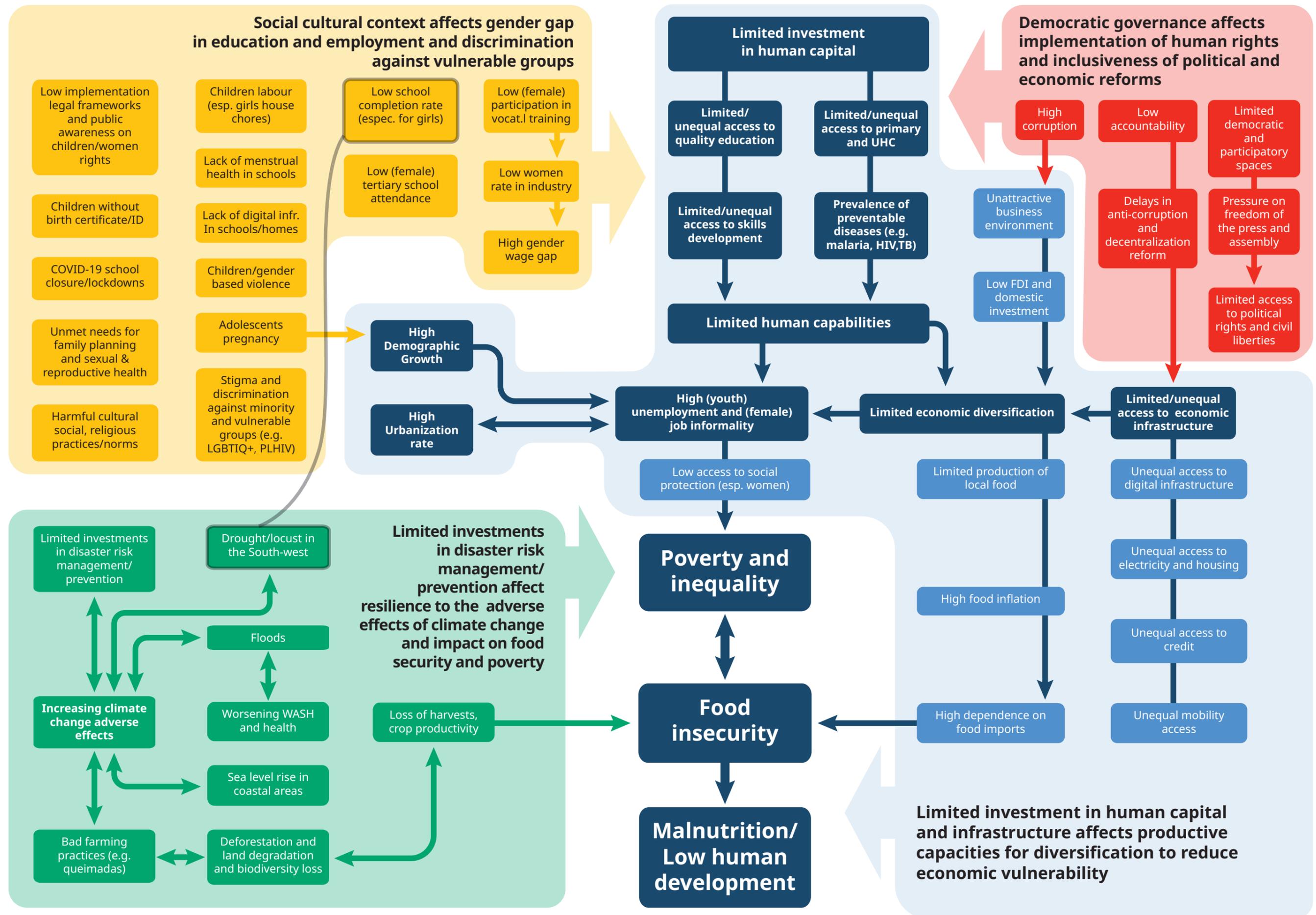
Political, governance, Human rights	Economic transformation and inequality	Social development and exclusion	Climate change and environment
IOM	AfDB	Global Fund	FAO
OHCHR	FAO	UNAIDS	IFAD
UNDP	IMF	UNDP	UNDP
UN-DPPA²⁶⁹	UNCTAD	UNFPA	UNICEF
UNHCR	UNDP	UN-Habitat	WFP
UNOCA²⁷⁰	UNECA	UNICEF	
UNODC	WB	WHO	
	WFP		

²⁶⁹ Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs.

²⁷⁰ United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa.

List of interviewees from Civil Society

Name	Organization	Role
Carlos Henriques Fernandes	Associação Íris de Angola	Executive Director
Imanni da Silva	Movimento Eu Sou Trans	Director
João Bongue	Conselho de Igrejas Cristãs em Angola	Director
Júlio Candeeiro	Mosaiko	General director
Allan Cain	Development Workshop	Executive Director
Delma Monteiro	Associação Observatório de Políticas Públicas da Perspectiva do Género	Executive Director
Veronica Sapalo	Plataforma das mulheres em acção	Executive Director







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