

# Uganda

March, 2018

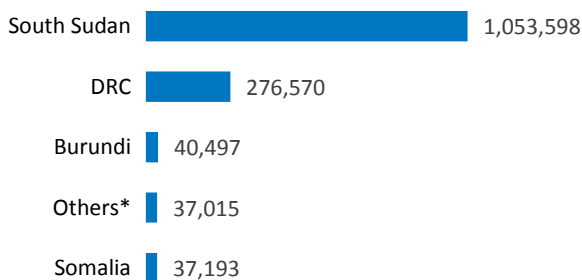
Uganda is currently hosting the highest number of refugees in the country's history, and is receiving simultaneous emergency influxes from **South Sudan, DRC** and **Burundi**.

The number of South Sudanese refugees in Uganda has exceeded one million, and the daily arrival rate remains high. Arrivals from DRC have risen since Late December 2017.

**Chronic underfunding** of the refugee response is threatening humanitarian organisations' ability to continue delivering **lifesaving and critical assistance**.

**POPULATION OF CONCERN: 1,444,873**

## Countries of Origin



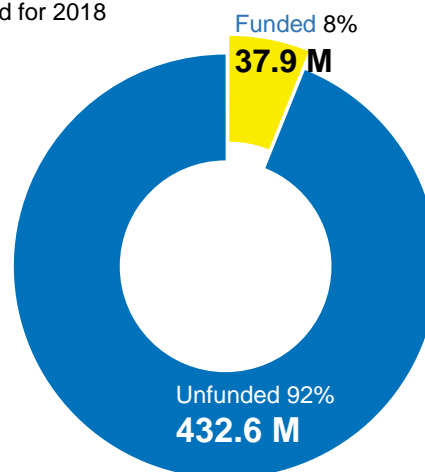
\* Others include refugees from Eritrea, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Sudan and other countries of origin.

Figures are based on data from the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) by March 2018 and are subject to ongoing biometric registration and verification.

**FUNDING (AS OF 27 MARCH)**

**USD 470.5 M**

requested for 2018



## UNHCR PRESENCE

### Staff:

370 National Staff

95 International Staff

### Offices:

One Branch Office in Kampala

One Field Office in Lamwo

Six Sub Offices in Mbarara, Arua, Pakelle, Moyo, Yumbe and Hoima

Eight Field Units in Nakivale, Kyaka II, Kisoro, Oruchinga, Rwamwanja, Kiryandongo and Kyangwali



UNHCR Senior Registration Officer, Mamadou Cissokho, taking OPM permanent secretary, Acting Commissioner, DFID and PRM mission through the process of verification in Nakivale ( UNHCR/E. Ohanusi)

## Working with Partners

- UNHCR works with the Government of Uganda through the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), District Local Governments (DLGs), NGOs and UN / international organizations. OPM is responsible for the coordination, settlement management and security at all refugee sites and partners implement multi-sectorial activities.
- In 2018, 91 partners composed of 6 UN agencies, 70 NGOs and 12 local governments are working in the refugee response.

## Main Activities

### Protection

- UNHCR works with the government to provide effective protection for refugees and asylum seekers in Uganda. Its multi-year multi-partner strategy is to ensure registration, documentation and status determination through effective functioning of the Refugee Eligibility Committee and the Refugee Appeals Board in line with the Refugee Act of 2006 and the Refugee Regulations of 2010.
- UNHCR and partners ensure legal support; social services, including child protection, assistance to vulnerable persons, SGBV prevention and response, psychosocial activities and community building in the settlements. UNHCR staff completed a mandatory training course on Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse as well as wide dissemination of PSEA pocketbooks to all staff and partners.

### Education

- Partnership with central and local district government, Ministry of Education and Sports -MoES, UN agencies, international and national NGOs and educational actors are key. District Education Officers (DEO) and district local government support with a range of administrative and quality functions such as provision of capitation grants, teacher deployment, school inspection, assessing and registration of schools, as well as a support and supervisory function to ensure basic standards are met. The Uganda education strategy (2013-2016) aims to increase enrolment for children aged 6 to 13 in primary schools and improve access to secondary, skills training and tertiary education.
- The Ministry of Education and Sports in collaboration with UNESCO is organizing a joint scoping mission to the West Nile region on refugee teacher training and certification on 26-29 March 2018. There will be participation from the Ministry of Education and Sports, UN agencies, NGO partners, Kyambogo University, National Council for Higher Education, UNATU and the Uganda National Examinations Board.
- A 3-year Education Response Plan for Refugees and Host Communities in Uganda (2018-2021) was developed—a process led by the Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES) and co-led by UNHCR and UNICEF—and with the involvement of all stakeholders and education partners. The Plan was submitted to the MoES in late January 2018 and is pending endorsement by the Education Sector Consultative Committee. Once cleared, it will be submitted to the Education Cannot Wait (ECW) to seek funding.

## Health

- The delivery of health services is anchored in the Uganda Health Policy and Health Sector Development Plan that are both aimed at achieving the Government of Uganda's Vision 2040 of a healthy and productive population. The health system in Uganda is composed of public, private-not-for-profit and private-for-profit providers as well as traditional practitioners. Refugee settlement public health services are integrated into the District Local Government health services and are implemented in-line with national health policy and the Health Sector Development Plan III. Public health is being increasingly integrated with local service delivery systems in line with the objectives of the ReHoPE framework.
- Under this framework, Ministry of Health and UNHCR, WHO, UNICEF, MSF with partner are responding to a cholera outbreak with currently 1,201 cases (Kyangwali – 1,151 cases and Kyaka II 50 cases) have been treated with a case fatality rate of 1.98%. Despite the cholera outbreak, the health situation of the new arrivals refugees remain stable with crude mortality rate at 0.22 deaths/10000/day (standard <1 death/10000/day).
- Refugees arriving continue to receive a comprehensive package of nutrition screening, vaccination, deworming and vitamin A supplement. High Energy Biscuits are provided as refugees are picked from the border crossing.

## Food Security and Nutrition

- WFP provides food rations for persons of concern at transit and reception centres as well as a monthly food ration once refugees are moved to settlement plots. The settlement policy where refugees are settled on land plots provides them with the opportunity to produce some of their own food. In addition, UNHCR partners carry out agricultural and livelihood activities.

## Water and Sanitation

- UNHCR and partners endeavour to meet the minimum water requirements following UNHCR Standards (15 litres per person per day) during the emergency and UNHCR minimum standard (20 litres per person per day) when the situation is stable. This includes drilling and motorisation as well as maintaining boreholes, connection to main water lines, or water trucking. Sanitation activities are supported by partners to achieve one latrine per household and public health promoters are trained on an ongoing basis in all refugee-hosting sites, to enhance knowledge and improve on practice.
- Over 21.5 million litres of potable water is supplied daily to UNHCR persons of concern ensuring per capita access is on average 16 litres per person per day in all settlements. UNHCR and partners continue to drill and motorize boreholes to increase per capita access to 20lpd and also provide water for productive uses. Household latrine coverage is currently at 42% and construction of over 50,000 units is underway across settlements. Emergency response activities for DRC new arrivals has been escalated primarily to contain spread of cholera through community sensitization on positive behaviour change as well as provision of emergency WASH services.

## Shelter and NFIs

- The operation follows the standardised shelter kits and core relief item distribution scale. Procurement and provision of minimum shelter and core relief items is a priority with new arrivals. Additional shelter and NFI support is also provided to persons with specific needs who are long stayers in the country. A new shelter

strategy is being developed to transition from emergency shelter to a semi-permanent shelter approach.

### **Camp Coordination and Camp Management**

- The Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) is primarily responsible for the Settlement Management.
- UNHCR, with the support of partners, coordinates the maintenance and running of three transit and four reception centres as well as five waystations and two collection points: in the northwest Nyumanzi transit centre (TC), Ocea reception centre (RC), Elegu Collection Point (CP) and Kuluba CP; in the Midwest of Kabwoya waystation (WS), Kagoma RC and Kiryandongo RC; and in the southwest of Bubukwanga TC, Nakayojo WS, Kyenjojo WS, Ishasha WS, Muhokya WS, Malembo RC and Nyakabande TC.

### **Access to Energy**

- UNHCR is developing an Environment Impact Assessment and Action Plan per settlement and plans on the implementation of the Global Safe Access to Fuel and Energy guidelines (SAFE), adapted for Uganda. Guided by the Energy Response Plan for Refugee Settlements in Uganda (ERPRS, developed in March 2018), the Uganda operation focuses on biomass generation and environment conservation and protection, and promotes access to improved energy-efficient cooking stoves, capacity building and use of alternative clean fuels.

### **Durable Solutions**

- UNHCR facilitates voluntary repatriation when conditions in the country of origin have improved and, on a limited basis, resettlement, whereby a refugee family leaves the country of asylum and legally settles in another third country. UNHCR is currently working together with the Government of Uganda on creative legal solutions for long-staying refugees that are unwilling or unable to return. In the current circumstance, UNHCR is not promoting voluntary repatriation to any of the countries of origin.
- Resettlement is used as an individual protection tool for refugees with acute protection needs, as well as a durable solution for refugees in protracted situations. Uganda is one of four countries implementing a sub-regional approach to enhanced resettlement for Congolese refugees, which was introduced in 2012. UNHCR has planned 5650 submissions for resettlement and 419 have departed as of March 2018.

### **Logistics**

- UNHCR works with partners to ensure transportation of non-food items to the various sites is coordinated. It also works with relevant partners to ensure transportation support for newly arrived refugees and assisted spontaneous returns.

### **Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF)**

- Seven development partners and members of Uganda's CRRF Secretariat participated in a mission to the Kyaka refugee settlement in Kyegegwa District (west) on 21st February 2018. The settlement has received 13,837 refugees from the DRC since 21st December 2017. Engaging development partners in the early stages of the emergency response enables us to conduct joint assessments and to prioritize the assistance required for refugee, communities affected by the refugee presence, and national and local authorities. The objective was to foster greater cooperation and encourage relevant joint planning between humanitarian and development actors, and leverage each other's comparative advantages. Development partners who took

part in the visit obtained a better understand of how UNHCR works with partners and local authorities in emergency situations; and agreed that long-term solutions must be discussed while work to build long-term structures in the refugee emergency is underway.

- Two multi-stakeholder CRRF induction workshops, each one and half days long, were held in Kyenjojo district, South West Uganda, for the stakeholders within the UNHCR operation covered by the Mbarara Sub Office.
- A special meeting of the Education Sector Consultation Committee (ESCC) held on 27 March 2018 unanimously endorsed the Education Response Plan for the Refugee and Host Communities (ERP), which is in line with Uganda's refugee policy, the CRRF and the Sustainable Development Goals.
- UNHCR participated in the launch of a Humanitarian Platform, which was set up by a group of local and national NGOs under the auspices of Uganda National NGO Forum, as a mechanism to strengthen coordination of local and national organisations in response to the humanitarian situation in Uganda.

## External / Donors Relations

### Thanks to donors providing contribution to Uganda

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