



UNHCR Uganda Factsheet June 2017

HIGHLIGHTS

707,216

South Sudanese new arrivals since 8 Jul 2016

272,206

South Sudanese refugees settled in Bidibidi

172,059

South Sudanese refugees settled in Palorinya

107,330

South Sudanese refugees settled in Imvepi

Population of concern

A total of **1,309,698** refugees and asylum-seekers, including 224,312 awaiting biometric registration) by end of May 2017

Refugees by country of origin

Country	Total
South Sudan	977,746
DRC	221,361
Burundi	36,278
Somalia	35,245

Funding

South Sudan Refugee Response Plan

US \$283 million: funding required by UNHCR in 2017

US \$104.7 million: funding received by UNHCR by June 2017 (29 per cent)

Burundi Refugee Response Plan

US \$55.3 million: funding required by UNHCR in 2017

No funding was received by UNHCR by June 2017

Overall UNHCR Uganda operations

US \$500.7 million: funding required by UNHCR in 2017

US \$154.9 million: funding received by UNHCR by June 2017 (27 per cent)

UNHCR Presence

Staff: 438

345 national staff

93 international staff

Offices:

7 offices and 7 field units:

Branch Office Kampala (Representation Office and Extension Unit), **Sub-Office Mbarara** (Field Unit Kisoro, Field Unit Kyaka II, Field Unit Nakivale, Field Unit Oruchinga, Field Unit Rwamwanja), **Sub Office Pakelle/Adjumani**, **Sub Office Arua**, **Field Office Moyo**, **Field Office Yumbe** and **Field Office Hoima** (Field Unit Kiryandongo, Field Unit Kyangwali).

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.
- The main **Government partners** are: The Office of the Prime Minister, District Local Governments (Adjumani, Arua, Koboko, Moyo and Yumbe), various technical departments and the Uganda Police Force.
- UNHCR's **implementing partners** in 2017 are: Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA), African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD), Aktion Afrika Hilfe (AAH), American Refugee Committee (ARC), Dan Church Aid (DCA), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS), Humanitarian Initiative Just Relief Aid (HIJSRA), Interaid Uganda (IAU), International Rescue Committee (IRC), Lutheran World Federation (LWF), Medical Teams International (MTI), Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Nsamizi Institute for Social Development (NISD), Oxfam, Real Medicine Foundation (RMF), Transcultural Psychosocial Organization Uganda (TPO), Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS), Windle Trust Uganda (WTU), World Vision International (WVI).
- UNHCR maintains an **operational partnership** with UN and International Organizations: FAO, ICRC, IOM, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNV, UN WOMEN, WFP and WHO.

ONGOING MAIN ACTIVITIES

Emergency Response

- In 2017, Uganda has continued to respond to the refugee influx from South Sudan, with 296,409 new arrivals between 1 January and 30 June. 2017. In April 2017, UNHCR and the Office of the Prime Minister opened a new settlement at Palabek, in Uganda's Lamwo district, to enhance reception capacity for new arrivals. More than 86 percent of new arrivals are women and children. South Sudanese new arrivals refugee status on a prima facie basis.

Protection

- UNHCR works with the Government to provide effective protection for refugees and asylum seekers in Uganda. Its multi-year 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 response, psychosocial activities and community building in the settlements.

SOLUTIONS OUTLOOK

- In response to the Government of Uganda's request for support for the Settlement Transformative Agenda (STA), the UN family and the World Bank are in the process of developing a five-year Refugee and Host Population Empowerment (ReHoPE) strategy, a multi-year joint framework for self-reliance and resilience programming for refugee and host communities in Uganda's ten refugee-hosting districts. ReHoPE seeks to move beyond a traditional 'care and maintenance approach' to enable refugees and their host communities to become safer, self-reliant and to live their lives with dignity. ReHoPE ultimately aims to develop new and innovative approaches to protracted forced displacement by addressing the humanitarian-development nexus. This goal is expected to be achieved through joint analysis, collective advocacy, integrated service delivery and joint resource mobilization. The ReHoPE strategy provides the basis for proposed joint programming of up to \$350 million over five years.

ReHoPE emphasizes close working relationships between the Government, UN, World Bank, private sector and development partners in planning and implementation. The Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) Department of Refugees, key line ministries and the nine District Local Governments (DLGs) are central partners in the planning and coordination of development-oriented interventions and in basic service provisions. The Government leadership ensures that UN and World Bank support will promote resilience and self-reliance in line with the local development priorities, given the recognition that refugees, nationals and hosting-districts face similar development and basic service delivery challenges and are more susceptible to shocks than areas not hosting refugees.

The ultimate goal is to provide economic assistance and social service provision and for it to be mainstreamed through the DLGs in order to improve equity, relevance and cost effectiveness, in ways that support refugees and host communities without distinction. The way service delivery is integrated will differ between regions. In regions where refugees are settled on community owned land (e.g. West Nile), as well as in Kampala, the refugee groupings will be smaller and interspersed among the local host community. In contrast, in those regions where refugees are in gazetted settlements, with infrastructure already built, it will be a matter of gradually handing over existing services and infrastructure to local government. In both situations, support to, and capacity development of, DLGs is needed to ensure that basic service delivery is maintained despite the added population.

- To date, a number of initiatives have been launched in support of ReHoPE:
 - The Koboko Partnership - a public-private partnership between the Government of Uganda Office of the Prime Minister, Koboko District Local Government, UNHCR, ACAV (a civil society organization) and Kato EcoFarming (a private enterprise) to provide 7,500 refugee and host community households with training on modern agricultural techniques and improved access to markets.
 - Yunus Social Business - a partnership between UNHCR and Nobel Prize winner Muhammad Yunus' social entrepreneurship vehicle designed to leverage the strength of the private sector to create jobs, generate income, and empower and capacitate the youth
 - OPM-WFP-UNHCR Joint Project for Self-Reliance - a multi-year project in Rwamwanja and Kyangwali settlements to deliver comprehensive support in agriculture and non-farm income generating activities to 3,500 refugee and host community households, thereby reducing food dependency enhancing food diversity and increasing self-reliance and resilience.
 - The Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has provided support to three refugee settlements through their Promotion of Rice Development (PRiDe) project, enhancing refugee self-reliance by improving access to markets for cash crops.
- A multi-disciplinary approach through innovative solutions is key for livelihoods including SGBV, youth employment and empowerment, and energy and environment.
- The World Bank's Regional Operation on Development Response to Displacement Impacts Project in the Horn of Africa (DRDIP) is a US\$175 million lending operation that aims to improve access to social services, expand economic opportunities, and enhance environmental management for host and forcibly displaced households in the targeted areas of Djibouti, Ethiopia and Uganda. The project's investments will focus on: (i) socio-economic development; (ii) sustainable environmental management, (iii) livelihoods; and (iv) project management and regional and national institutional support. As part of this project, the Government of Uganda is borrowing US\$50 million to support its Settlement Transformative Agenda. DRDIP will focus on the following refugee-hosting districts: Adjumani, Arua, Kiryandongo and Isingiro.

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.
- 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.
- During a meeting in February 2015, the Great Lakes Refugee Core Group committed to exploring the potential of de jure local integration for 15,000 long staying refugees by bringing the issue to high levels within the Government. This is in line with the Core Group's objective to provide a comprehensive range of solutions for all refugees in Uganda. This was addressed in a meeting with the Prime Minister in May 2015, who recommended the pursuit of an interim solution such as long-stay residence permits for this caseload as a pathway towards eventual naturalization. An Inter-Ministerial Taskforce has been constituted to look into the requirements to enable the full implementation of this outcome.
- Naturalization of Protracted Refugee Cases: The Government is exploring the possibility of providing naturalization to 2,318 individual refugees who all arrived before 1995. This clear expression of the Government of Uganda commitment has been lauded by donors who have indicated their willingness to support the Government in this endeavour.

Education

- Refugee children are granted with the same rights to education as their Ugandan counterparts, providing them with free universal primary and secondary education (UPE). However, hidden costs, such as teacher salaries and scholastic materials, hinder the abilities of many refugees to afford to attend school, especially at secondary level. At the end of 2015, around two-thirds of children of primary-school age were attending education, while at secondary level that figure drops to around 5.5%.
- Partnership with central and local district government, Ministry of Education Science, Technology and Sports (MoESTS), 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

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 (PNFP) and private-for-profit (PFP) 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. Public health is being increasingly integrated with local service delivery systems in line with the objectives of the ReHoPE framework.

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 whereby 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.
- In August 2016, Government of Uganda, UNHCR and WFP announced that, due to continued and severe underfunding, food rations would be revised by 50% for all refugees who arrived in Uganda prior to July 2015. Exceptions have been made for particularly vulnerable refugees.
- In collaboration with the District Local Governments, technical teams from the health and nutrition partners, under the leadership of the Office of the Prime Minister, are working closely to identify malnourished children in the settlements (refugees and host community children) and enrol them on supplementary and therapeutic feeding programmes. UN agencies coordinate with the partners in addressing challenges related to malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies among children.

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 1 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.

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.

Settlement Coordination and Settlement 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 3 transit and 4 reception centres as well as 5 waystations and 2 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). The operation focusses on environment conservation and protection; and promotes access to energy saving stoves and alternative clean fuels.

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.

UNHCR'S MAIN DONORS IN 2017



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