

Uganda

April, 2019

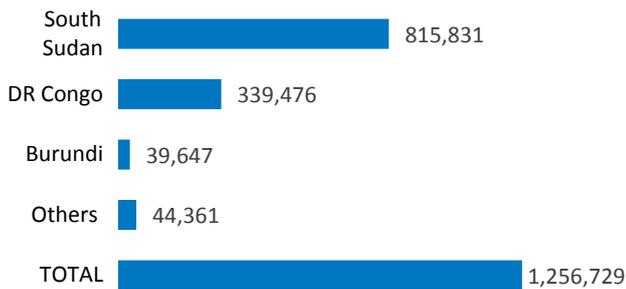
During the month of **April 2019**, **10,250 refugees** (*border monitoring*) from South Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Burundi arrived in Uganda, majority from Democratic Republic of Congo. The humanitarian situation remains unpredictable in South Sudan and the DRC.

Refugees from South Sudan continue to report as causes of flight hunger, lack of education opportunities, ethnic clashes between Dinka and Luo tribes, and family reunification. Those from DRC report abductions for ransom, sexual violence against women by armed militia and destruction of property.

Burundians indicate several reasons for leaving their country including insecurity and family reunification.

POPULATIONS OF CONCERN

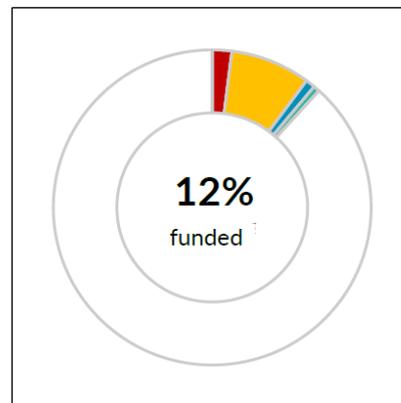
Refugees and Asylum-Seekers by Nationality



UNHCR FUNDING (AS AT 30 APRIL 2019)

USD 448.8 M

UNHCR's financial requirements 2019:



Unfunded 88% **397M**

Funded 12% **53M**



10,250

Number of **new arrivals** during April 2019.
Based on SSD, DRC and Burundi figures

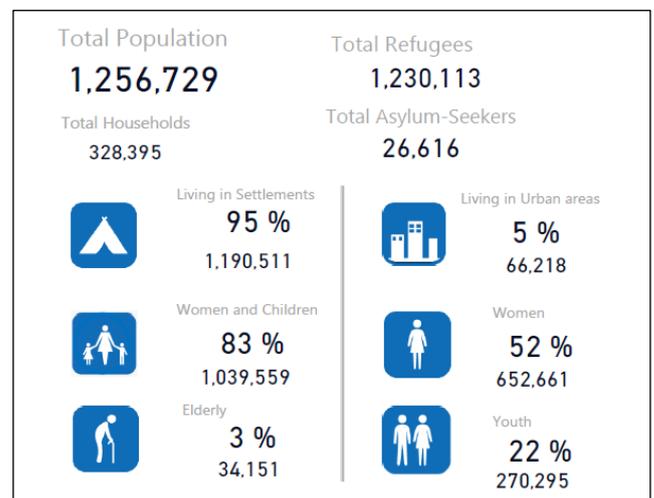
342

Daily average of new arrivals during April 2019.
Based on SSD, DRC and Burundi figures

1,256,729

Total **refugees and asylum-seekers** in Uganda as of 30-April 2019.

Snapshot of Uganda Refugee Statistics – April 2019





Uganda's First Deputy Prime Minister and Deputy Leader of Government Business in Parliament, Rt. Hon. Gen. Moses Ali (Second Left) and Ambassador of Japan to Uganda, H.E. Kazuaki Kameda (Second Right) cut the tape marking the official opening of Paridi Stadium. Extreme left is Deputy Representative of UNHCR, Mahoua Parums. Photo ©Duniya.A. Khan/April 2019

Operational Highlights:

UNHCR, with financial support from the Government of Japan, completed construction of new sports facilities at the Paridi Stadium in Adjumani District. The stadium will provide shared space for sports, social and economic interactions, for some 393,000 refugee and host community youth.

The facility was handed over to district authorities in a colourful inaugural ceremony, which was presided over by the First Deputy Prime Minister and Deputy Leader of Government Business in Parliament, Rt. Hon. Gen. Moses Ali and attended by the Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of Uganda, H.E. Kazuaki Kameda; Deputy Representative of UNHCR, Mahoua Parums; Head of UNHCR Adjumani, Orkhan Nasibov, and a large number of refugees and members of the host community. The stadium was established in 1997 and was the only sports stadium in Adjumani district. The Paridi stadium project is part of the Refugee Host Community Empowerment Programme (ReHOPE), and was selected as a priority by Adjumani District Local Government (DLG) for financial support from UNHCR. The project was designed to improve the stadium facilities including the construction of a perimeter wall, toilets, dressing-rooms (for teams and officials), a sports hall, drainage system and installation of solar security lights. The improvement work was a result of Japan's commitment to Uganda's refugee response programme at the Solidarity Summit held in Kampala, in June 2017.

Operational Context:

The humanitarian situation in South Sudan and the DRC remained unpredictable during the reporting period. Asylum-seekers from South Sudan continued to arrive through Lamwo district (Ngomoromo, Awenolwi, Madi Opei, Waligo Entry points), Adjumani (Elegu Collection Point) and Koboko district (Kuluba Collection Point, Oraba, Busia border point and Ocea TC). Those from DRC mainly came through border-entry points of Bunagana, Lake Albert (Sebagaro & Nsonga), Ishasha/Kihihi, Ntoroko and Nteko.

During the month of April, **5,418** persons arrived from **South Sudan**; **4561** from **DRC**; and **271** from **Burundi**, representing an upward trend in monthly arrivals, save for Burundi.

**PROTECTION**

Statelessness: UNHCR Uganda attended a Ministerial Conference on Eradication of Statelessness in the Great Lakes Region in Nairobi from 16-18 April 2019. The conference was attended by Experts from the 12 member states of the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR). The purpose was to review progress by members' states in achieving commitments to the *Brazzaville Declaration* as well as the Regional Action Plan. Member States extended the Regional Action Plan from 2019 to 2024, in order to align with the *IBelong* campaign. Uganda was represented at the event by the Minister of Internal Affairs, Gen. Abubakar Jeje Odongo who made the following pledges on behalf of the Government of Uganda;

- To accede to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness noting that the State has the option to deposit its instruments of accession at a special treaty event at the High Level Event in October 2019.
- By no later than 2024, to introduce and implement safeguards in its nationality law to grant nationality to children born on the territory who would otherwise be stateless: Action 2 of the Global Action Plan (GAP).
- By no later than 2024, to introduce reform in its laws to prevent denial of attribution of nationality at birth on discriminatory grounds: Actions 1 and 4 of the GAP.
- By no later than 2024, to ensure that the Maragoli, Benet, Ugandan-Asian and other unrecognised communities present in Uganda since before 1926 are legally included: Actions 1 and 4 of the GAP
- By no later than 2021, to complete a legal study on statelessness and Citizenship in order to better understand and address the factors leaving certain populations stateless or at risk of statelessness and to support a comprehensive legal and Constitutional Reform: Action 10 of the GAP.
- By end of 2019, Uganda pledges to finalise and approve a National Action Plan to serve as the national strategy to eradicate statelessness in the country by 2024.

Inter-Agency Feedback, Referral and Resolution Mechanism (FRRM) Helpline: During the month of April, a total of 1,253 call were received through the helpline, with 528 cases from females and 725 cases from males. 762 cases were handled at helpline level and feedback provided and 491 case referrals were made to partners and UNHCR focal points for follow-up. Of the cases received, the highest were 687 from Nakivale refugee settlement followed by 234 from Kampala. The least number of cases were from Nyumanzi refugee settlement (2) in Adjumani district and Rhino Camp (1) refugee settlement (1) in Arua district. The largest number of cases were in relation to General Queries (238); Durable Solutions (237); General Protection/Community Based Protection (194), Health and Nutrition (160); Registration (105); and others (319).

Cross-border Teleconference: A cross-border teleconference was conducted with UNHCR South Sudan. The main issues discussed were the situation of so called spontaneous returns (back and forth movements by refugees returning temporarily to South Sudan to check on the situation) from Uganda to South Sudan and an update on the situation in South Sudan. It was agreed that the two operations would hold such teleconferences on a monthly basis going forward.

Registration: A Memorandum of Understanding between Government of Uganda and UNHCR has been signed, establishing a framework for refugee registration and population management in Uganda. The MOU was signed on 04 of April 2019 in Kampala. A new ID card printing module that supports batch printing was successfully piloted in Kampala and will be rolled out in all locations to increase the level of individual documentation. Meanwhile, monthly demographic profiles were developed and published for each of the settlements and Kampala, to allow tracking of key population indicators and registration trends.

Community based protection: A mission of the Board of Directors of the World Bank to Kampala took place in April 2019, to gain a better understanding of the refugee situation in Uganda and the progress of the joint UNHCR-World Bank collaboration in responding to the issues of refugees and forced displacement. An

exhibition of refugees' products and self-reliance activities was organized at the Urban Refugee Community Centre on 26 April 2019, to showcase the livelihood activities conducted by refugees. This was followed by panel discussion focusing on refugee policy and status in Uganda. Panellists included Minister Honorary Hilary Onek, UNHCR Representative, World Bank Country Manager, Commissioner for Refugees, OPM Director of NUSAF 3 and DRDIP, the Ambassador of the Netherlands to Uganda, and a female refugee representative.

Durable Solutions: The intentions survey on return to South Sudanese was initiated in three refugee settlements in West Nile. The survey was completed in Adjumani and was yet to be completed in Arua and Yumbe. The objective of the survey was to understand the perspective of refugees on voluntary return and the situation in South Sudan. In Adjumani, a total of 820 households were interviewed. The preliminary findings indicate that majority of the refugees are unwilling to return to South Sudan currently, due to the ongoing conflict and lack of basic services (health, education, and livelihood opportunities).



EDUCATION

The first term of the school year finished in April. A total of 232,858 (54% boys and 46% girls) enrolled in primary schools in refugee settlements across Uganda, just over 66 percent of refugee population aged 6 to 13 years. Unfortunately, the transition to secondary education remains low, with only 15 percent or a total of 21,023 (68% boys and 32% girls), of those children aged 14 to 17 years in secondary education, with even fewer girls entering secondary education in the first term. UNHCR is working at both the community level and with district governments to improve access to secondary education, assist with the payment of examinations, verification of school certificates and scholarships to support children to move into secondary education.

Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF)

CRRF Steering Group: The 6th CRRF Steering Group meeting took place on 10-11 April 2019 in Arua Town, and included a field visit to Bidibidi Refugee Settlement, Yumbe District. This first CRRF Steering Group field visit clearly demonstrated significant advancements and the key role of CRRF stakeholders in implementing and operationalizing a comprehensive refugee response, as guided by Uganda's CRRF roadmap. It provided evidence that Uganda's refugee model, built on the premise that investments in these hosting areas can benefit both the refugees and their Ugandan hosts.

The revised CRRF road map / Uganda's National Plan of Action on the Implementation of the Global Compact on Refugees and its CRRF was adopted, which sets out further refined CRRF outcomes and milestones for the remaining two years 2019 and 2020.

The Water and Environment Refugee Response Plan: The development of the Water and Environment Refugee Response Plan is further progressing through Regional stakeholder consultative workshops. Workshops in the South West and West Nile, brought together political leaders and technical staff from refugee hosting district local government, humanitarian and development partners, private sector actors, and environmentalists to further shape the plan. The meetings included joint field visits to gain more understanding on water and environment issues. The costed Response Plan will be launched by the Minister for Water and Environment, to guide the overall delivery of water and environment services in refugee settlement and host communities.

The Integrated Health Sector Refugee Response Plan: The Health Sector Integrated Refugee Response Plan budgeted at 100 million USD was launched in January 2019. The Ministry of Health conducted dissemination meetings in the Southwest to raise awareness of the plan and key indicators to be applied at District Level.



HEALTH

Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) screening, surveillance, infection prevention and control activities are on-going in all six refugees hosting districts in the Southwestern region. No confirmed case has been registered in the country.

A total of 161,853 consultations were made during the month of April across all settlements with 78% refugees and 22% nationals. Of these, 8,048 were admitted in the health facilities for proper care and treatment of which 66% were refugees.

Crude mortality was at 0.08 (standard <0.75) while under 5 mortality was at 0.14 (Standard <1.5). Top causes of morbidity were: Malaria 26%; Watery diarrhea 4%; Skin disease 8%; Eye Disease 3%; Intestinal worms 3%; URTI 16%; LRTI 10%; Ear disease 3%; and Others 27%; across all settlements.

The number of live births registered were 3,828 of which, 94% were conducted by skilled health workers. Of these, 60% were refugees and 40% nationals.



FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

Nutrition

In April 2019, UNHCR health and nutrition partners treated 1,705 children across all settlements for severe acute malnutrition, 67% of whom were refugees, and 33% nationals. A total of 21,187 children, 80% of whom were refugees, received vitamin A doses I & II, while 87 women received vitamin A postnatal. WFP and its cooperating partners treated 5,015 children and 3,485 pregnant and nursing mothers, for moderate acute malnutrition across all settlements. They also reached approximately 64,260 children aged 6-23 months, and 37,740 pregnant and nursing mothers from settlements and host communities with the Maternal and Child Health Nutrition (MCHN) programme, to prevent stunting.

Food security

In April 2019, a technical working group comprised of UNHCR, OPM and WFP, led the analysis of data collected in all settlements, and compiled reports as part of the Joint Process Review of the new food assistance collection Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). These activities are part of an ongoing process that was done in consultation with the different stakeholders involved in the process.

As part of the monthly food assistance support, WFP in partnership with UNHCR, Government of Uganda, and cooperating partners, provided general food assistance to 1.2 million refugees across all settlements. Of these, 74% received in-kind food, and 26% received unconditional cash assistance. These transfers amounted to 14,800 metric tonnes of food, and 10.2 billion UGX (US\$ 2.8 million) of cash. WFP also distributed high-energy biscuits at the border crossing points and served hot meals in transit/reception centres.

WFP conducted a quarterly Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) in the thirteen refugee settlements, to assess beneficiary accessibility, utilization and satisfaction, with food assistance in the first quarter of 2019. The PDM findings show that 68 percent of the refugee households reported acceptable Food Consumption Scores (FCS) with no significant difference from the previous PDMs. Beneficiaries that received cash were more likely to have acceptable FCS than those that received food. In addition, 60% of refugee households reported that women participated in the decision making on the use of food assistance. Overall, 97 percent of the beneficiaries were satisfied with the new food assistance collection procedures.



WATER AND SANITATION

Access to water for populations in West Nile and South West continues to improve as the rainy season progresses, stabilizing shallow ground water and improving functionality of hand-pumps. Four solar hybrid pumping schemes were completed and commissioned. On average 17.3 litres per person per day was supplied to populations.

Household latrine coverage dipped to 62% down from 66% last month, characteristic of rainy seasons, whereby, simple family latrines get filled up quickly or fall into disuse. The sector continues to roll out dome slab latrines which are more stable and do not require logs, which is the main failure point once it soaks up in water and rots over time.

Hygiene promotion activities continued with emphasize on water related ailments, whose risks increases during the rainy season. Overall, no significant spikes in diarrhea diseases have been recorded.



SHELTER, SETTLEMENTS AND NFIS

UNHCR, OPM and partners conducted a verification of semi-permanent PSN (Persons with Specific Needs) shelters in Rhino Camp refugee settlement on 01– 12 April 2019. The aim of the verification was to ascertain the actual number of semi-permanent shelters built, number of authorized occupants, and the current conditions/status of the shelters. Preliminary findings indicate that, most if not all, shelters are occupied by the rightful owners who are mainly elderly persons. However, some of the shelters are in need of repair and PSN occupants are not in position to address these needs.

A total of 53 households comprising of 476 individuals, were relocated from Ocea Reception Centre to settlement plots in Rhino Camp refugee settlement on 09 April 2019. They were provided with Kitchen sets, plastic sheets, jerry cans, basins, hoes and sickles. However, construction poles had to be distributed to them later in the month, once the supplies had been replenished.

A total of 456 households comprising of 1,014 individuals were received in Omugo zone of Rhino Camp refugee settlement from Imvepi refugee settlement and settled on plots in Village 4 of the settlement. Self-relocations by new arrivals which had created congestions in some locations have been remediated by allocating them land in less rocky locations where farming is viable.

In Kyaka II refugee settlement, OPM demarcated 1,500 plots (each 30m x 30m) throughout April 2019 for newly registered arrivals. A total of 1,152 individuals from 584 households were allocated new plots in Kakoni and Sweswe zones, within the settlement.

The progress report on household plot surveying and physical planning in Nakivale and Kyangwali refugee settlements was finalised and published by the Refugee Settlement Land Taskforce (RSLT). Of the planned 10,000 plots, 7,142 plots are ready to receive new arrivals (4,700 in Nakivale & 2,442 in Kyangwali). The corresponding livelihood plots are yet to be demarcated for new arrivals, as well as for those existing settled refugees who would lose their livelihood plots with the demarcation of the new residential plots. Resource mobilisation is required for OPM and Ministry of Land, Housing and Urban Development (MoLHUD), to execute these pending tasks and complete the pilot project.



ENVIRONMENT AND ACCESS TO ENERGY

In Arua district, UNHCR together with Refugee Welfare Committees of Ocea zone, mobilized a total of 1,316 (797 female and 519 male headed) households, including 50 from the host community for community tree growing. This mobilization continues within both the refugee and host community households in Zone 1, including new interest from two churches and one primary school.

In Imvepi refugee settlement, 18 hectares of assorted tree species were planted by the host community within the settlements and in institutions. A further 30 hectares have been prepared for planting in May 2019, pending sufficient rains. A total of 556,000 seedlings in different nurseries are ready for planting. However, the planting is interrupted by the protracted dry spell experienced in the West Nile region (Arua, Nebbi, Koboko and Yumbe).

A total of 9 hectares of rare and protected tree species, seed stands and those in fragile and sensitive ecosystems, were marked to protect them from being cut by the community. The exercise was facilitated by RICE-WN and youth from both refugee and host community were engaged through cash for work.

Welthungerhilfe (WHH) procured 5,000 bamboo seedlings for pilot planting in Imvepi, Rhino Camp and Bidibidi refugee settlements. These will mainly go to 30 beneficiaries from the host community, yet to be identified by the partner.



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE

Lutheran World Federation, Mercy Corps and Red Cross, UNHCR's partners, provided agricultural support to 2,322 households in Moyo district, during the month of April 2019. This is approximately 7.5% of the population in Palorinya refugee settlement. The support was in form of seeds and tools to support production of sesame and cotton. In addition, 45 business groups comprising of 580 persons (380 females and 200 males), receive business development support to run income generating activities.

Community Empowerment for Rural Development (CEFORD) Uganda, a local NGO partner, launched a multi-million irrigation scheme in Moyo district, to support crop production for the host community. The aim is to promote large scale crop production, especially vegetables, which are in high demand in the local market.

Partners in Yumbe district distributed about 4.89 metric tons of assorted field crops, and 0.9 metric tons of vegetable seeds, to over 4,336 farmers during the month of April. Assorted hand tools were also given to 43 groups, comprised of 901 farmers.

UNHCR's partners, Danish Church Aid (DCA) in collaboration with ENSIBUKO, a local company, are piloting a digital cash box, with the view of replacing the current savings boxes in Yumbe district. The aim is to link Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLAs), to a regulated financial institution using a digital solution. This is in order to improve safety of VSLA members' savings and also initiate a relationship between VSLA, and the formal financial institution, in order to enable VSLAs access variety of financial products.

Challenges

The long dry spell and late onset of the rains in most parts of the country delayed planting of crops and is likely to affect crop yield.

Closure of livelihood projects in some of the settlements and delayed start of planned projects by partners, has created huge gaps in some of the settlements.

Working in partnership with:

Government - Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), District Local Government (DLG), Ministry of Agriculture Animal, Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF), Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES), Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development (MEMD), Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development (MGLSD), Ministry of Health (MoH), Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE), Ministry of Trade Industry and Cooperatives (MTIC), **Refugee Hosting Districts** – Adjumani, Arua, Bundibugyo, Hoima, Isingiro, Kampala, Kamwenge, Kikuube, Kiryandongo, Koboko, Kyegegwa, Lamwo, Moyo, Yumbe. **UN** - United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UNWOMEN), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Migration Agency (IOM), United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA), United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), United Nations World Health Organization (WHO). **NGOs** - Action Africa Help (AAH), Action Against Hunger (ACF), Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA), African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD), African Medical and Research Foundation (AMREF), African Women and Youth Action for Development (AWYAD), Agency for Accelerated Regional Development (AFARD), Agency for Cooperation and Research in Development (ACORD), Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED), American Refugee Committee (ARC), Andre Foods International (AFI), Association for Aid and Relief Japan (AARJ), Association of Volunteers in International Service (AVSI), Associazione Centro Aiuti Volontari (ACAV), A-Z Children’s Charity, Baylor, Building Resources Across Communities (BRAC), Belgian Development Agency (ENABEL), CARE, Care and Assistance for Forced Migrants (CAFOMI), Caritas Uganda (CU), Catholic Organisation for Relief and Development Aid (CORDAID), Catholic Relief Service (CRS), Child Voices International, Communication and Education (PACE), Community Empowerment for Rural Development (CEFORD), Community Technology Empowerment Network (CTEN), Concern World Wide (CWW), Cooperazione Sviluppo (CESVI), DanChurchAid (DCA), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Doctors with Africa (CUAMM), Drop in the Basket (DiB), Finn Church Aid (FCA), Finnish Refugee Council (FRC), Food for the Hungry (FH), Friends of Kisoro, German International Cooperation (GiZ), Give Directly, Global Aim, Global Refugee International (GRI), Healing Kadi Foundation, Help Age International, Humane Africa Mission (HAM), Humanitarian Assistance and Development Services (HADS), Humanitarian Initiative Just Relief Aid (HIJRA), Humanitarian Open Street Map Team (HOT), Humanity & Inclusion (HI), IMPACT, Infectious Disease Institute (IDI), InterAid, Inter-church Organization for Development Cooperation (ICCO Cooperation), International Aid Services (IAS), International Center for Research in Agro Forestry (ICRAF), International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), International Rescue Committee (IRC), IsraAid, Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS), Johanniter, Kabarole Research and Resource Centre (KRC), Lutheran World Federation (LWF), Lutheran World Relief (LWR), Malteser International (MI), Medical Teams International (MTI), Mercy Corps (MC), Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Nsamizi Training Institute of Social Development (NSAMIZI), OXFAM, Peace Winds Japan (PWJ), Peter C. Alderman Foundation (PCAF), Plan International (PI), Programme for Accessible health, Real Medicine Foundation (RMF), Regional Health Integration to Enhance Services in Eastern Uganda (RHITES), Reproductive Health Uganda (RHU), Right to Play (RtP), Rural Initiative for Community Empowerment in West Nile (RICE-WN), Salvation Army, Samaritan’s Purse (SP), Save the Children International (SCI), Self Help Africa (SHA), The Uganda National Apiculture Development Organization (Tunado), Transcultural Psychosocial Organization (TPO), Trocaire, Tutapona Trauma Rehabilitation (TTR), Uganda Law Society (ULS), Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS), Uganda Refugee Disaster and Management Council (URDMC), War Child Canada (WCC), War Child Holland (WCH), Water Mission Uganda (WMU), Welthungerhilfe (WHH), Windle International Uganda (WIU), World Vision International (WVI), Young Women’s Christian Association (YWCA), ZOA – Uganda (ZOA)

Thank you to donors providing generous unearmarked and earmarked contributions to UNHCR Uganda in 2019

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The Refugee Response in Uganda is coordinated jointly by the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

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