

# Uganda

August, 2019

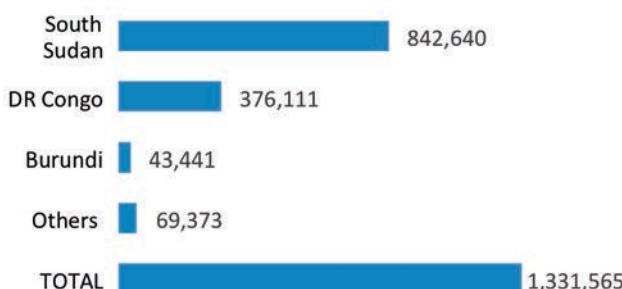
During the month of **August 2019**, **7,428 refugees** from, Democratic Republic of Congo (5,912), South Sudan (818) and Burundi (698), arrived in Uganda. This brings, the number of new refugee arrivals since 1 January 2019, to 72,077. The humanitarian situation remains unpredictable in South Sudan and the DRC.

Refugees from the DRC cited inter-ethnic violence in Ituri as well as fighting and attacks on civilians in North Kivu as reasons for fleeing. Those from South Sudan reported insecurity, food insecurity and lack of access to basic services such as education and health as the main causes of flight.

Burundians indicate several reasons for leaving their country including, insecurity, family reunification, reported violence and fear of forcible conscription by militia groups.

## POPULATIONS OF CONCERN

### Refugees and Asylum-Seekers by Nationality



# 7,428

Number of **new arrivals** during August 2019, based on border monitoring.

# 240

Daily average of new arrivals during August 2019, based on border monitoring.

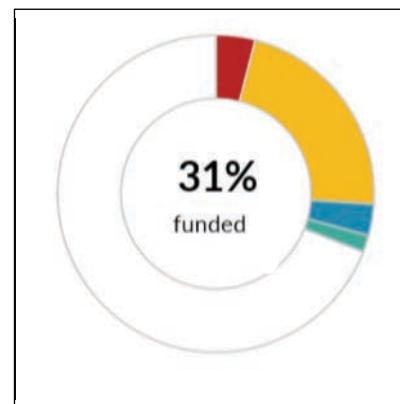
# 1,331,565

Total refugees and asylum-seekers in Uganda as of 31 August 2019.

### UNHCR FUNDING (AS OF 31 AUGUST 2019)

# USD 386.2 M

UNHCR's financial requirements 2019:



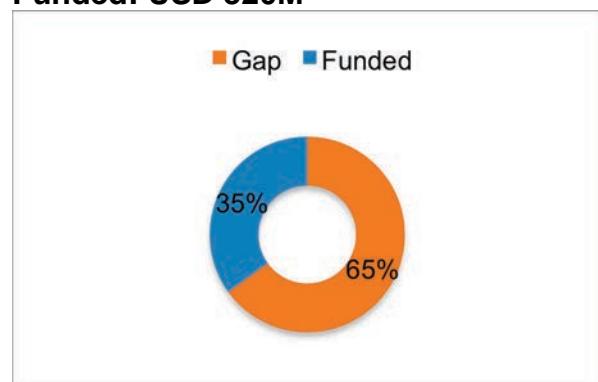
Unfunded 69% - **267 M**

Funded 31% - **119 M**

█ Tightly earmarked  
█ Earmarked  
█ Softly earmarked (indicative allocation)  
█ Unearmarked (indicative allocation)  
█ Funding gap (indicative)

### 2019-2020 Uganda RRP | Tentative Funding Update\*

**Requirements for 2019: USD 927M**  
**Funded: USD 320M**





South Sudanese refugees collecting tree seedlings for distribution to local villages in Rhino Camp refugee settlement, Arua district.

### Operational Context

The humanitarian situation in South Sudan and the DRC remained unpredictable during the reporting period. Most of the new Congolese refugees arrived from Ituri province across Lake Albert and were transferred to Kyangwali settlement. Those arriving at the transit centres and collection points through Nyakabande and Matanda came from Rutshuru, Goma, Uvira, Masisi, Biriza, Bukoma, and Buanza; those passing through Ntoroko mainly came from Ituri and North Kivu, Tchoma, Kasenyi, Boga, Beni, and Nyamamba. All were settled in Kyaka II. 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).

### COMPREHENSIVE REFUGEE RESPONSE FRAMEWORK (CRRF)

At the 2019 Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) VII, UNHCR, the African Union Commission (AUC), United Nations Office of the Special Advisor on Africa (UNOSAA) and JICA, convened a high-level side event, *Towards Enhanced Partnership and Solidarity to Support Forcibly Displaced Persons in Africa*, on 29 August 2019. Uganda was represented by the Minister of State for Relief and Disaster Preparedness and a refugee from South Sudan. The event highlighted the progressive refugee model in Uganda, importance of partnership and solidarity for more comprehensive responses and role of the private sector. It was also looked at as a critical opportunity to build momentum towards the Global Refugee Forum and implementation of the Global Compact on Refugees. The panellists also discussed refugee inclusion into national systems and the intersections of prevention, resilience and State-building in forced displacement settings.

The National Planning Authority (NPA) is currently preparing the draft for the next 5-year National Development Plan (NDP) III, which will be released on 25 September 2019. Discussions on mainstreaming refugees in NDP III and relevant sector strategies to include them in development planning are underway. UNHCR and development partners have been advocating for refugees during the NPA stakeholder consultations at national level, and at the verification of the revised District Planning Guidelines, at District level. At the same time, the UN in Uganda is drafting the Common Country Analysis, which will be the basis for the next UN Sustainable Development Framework. The Common Country Analysis outlines the UN contributions to support implementation of NDP III and includes refugees.

The first Global Refugee Forum (GRF) will take place on 17-18 December 2019 in Geneva, Switzerland. The forum, which takes place at ministerial level, will announce concrete pledges and contributions towards the objectives of the Global Compact on Refugees. In preparations for the GRF, UNHCR's Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa visited Uganda and other countries in East Africa to raise awareness on the event and to support Government's participation.



## PROTECTION

UNHCR, OPM and the Uganda Communications Commission (UCC) held a meeting to explore how the latter can verify registration of PoCs against the Refugee Register to facilitate their quick access to SIM cards for social and economic inclusion. Following that meeting, UCC issued a directive on 13 August 2019, allowing PoCs to use attestations and asylum seekers certificates to register for SIM cards (in addition to ID cards).

**Registration:** During the month of August, the Office of the Prime Minister registered 11,854 persons of concern (PoC)s, including new arrivals and asylum seekers who arrived in Uganda in previous months. This includes 8,799 individuals from DRC, 1,147 from Somalia, 1,093 from South Sudan and 815 from Burundi.

The tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between OPM, the National Identification and Registration Authority (NIRA) and UNHCR was signed on 13 August 2019, following discussions that lasted nearly one year. This will allow proceeding with deduplication of refugee biometrics against the national registry. Additionally, the addendum to the Project Partnership Agreement (PPA), articulating the use of proGres as the main system for individual case management, was finalized and shared with protection partners for signature. So far, only InterAid Uganda (IAU), Humanitarian Initiative Just Relief Aid (HIJRA), American Refugee Committee (ARC) and Humanitarian Assistance and Development Services (HADS), have signed the PPA. After the successful pilot with Interaid Uganda (IAU) in the urban context, UNHCR facilitated the roll out of the proGres V4 child protection case management module in Nakivale and Oruchinga settlements, targeting both partner (HIJRA) and UNHCR Child Protection staff.

**Refugee Status determination (RSD):** On 26 August 2019, new members of the Refugee Appeals Board (RAB) were appointed in accordance with Section 16 of the Refugees Act. The previous RAB's mandate ended in May 2019. The appointed RAB is composed of five members that will serve for a period of 3 years.

In August 2019, The Refugee Eligibility Committee (REC) conducted two sessions in Nakivale and Kampala, 3,563 out of 3,664 applications for refugee status was granted. Since the beginning of the year, the REC has adjudicated a total of 15,834 asylum applications during 12 sessions, out of which 15,139 were granted refugee status.

**The Inter-Agency Helpline (Feedback, Referral and Resolution Mechanism – FRRM):** A total of 2,088 cases were recorded through the FRRM helpline, representing an 11% increase from July 2019. Of these, 782 cases were received from females and 1,306 from males, with majority in the age-group of 26-35 years. A total of 1,049 cases were handled at helpline level, while 1,039 referrals were made to UNHCR and partners for follow up. By sector, most of the cases were related to: general queries (398); durable solutions (376); health and nutrition (282); and community-based protection (278). By location, the South and Mid-west continued to report most of the cases with: 1,022 received from Nakivale settlement, 289 from Kyanwngwali settlement and 351 from Kampala.

**Urban Response:** UNHCR held a town hall meeting with South Sudanese refugees on 29 August 2019, at the community centre in Kabusu, Kampala. Key issues raised included: access to education; health services; livelihood opportunities; resettlement; travel documents; capacity building for refugee community leaders; and information dissemination. Notably, women cited the lack of/limited health care facilities to manage long-term health consequences of female genital mutilation, particularly, obstetric fistulas. Cervical cancer screening, Immunization/vaccination and outreach services were also emphasized.

**International Youth Day celebrations:** International Youth day commemorations were held in the different settlements across the operation including Kampala. In Imvepi settlement, commemorations were held in Zone 3, at Yikuru Secondary School, under the theme, *Youth in Education Transformation*. The guest of honour was a refugee youth who is a beneficiary of the Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative (DAFI) scholarship and who completed her university education at Ndejje University.

**Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV):** On 20 August 2019, UNHCR as one of the recipients UN Organizations for the Spotlight Funding participated in the spotlight National Inception Meeting organized by the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development in collaboration with the United Nations in Kampala. The meeting was attended by representatives from the seven spotlight beneficiary districts of: Adjumani, Arua, Kyegegwa, Kasese, Amudat, Kitgum and Tororo. The purpose of the meeting was to formally introduce the Spotlight Initiative at district and national levels. Similar inception meetings will be conducted at district level in the coming months reaching out to key stakeholders. UNHCR will work closely with district counterparts to mobilize and plan the spotlight district inception meetings in the refugee hosting districts of Arua and Kyegegwa.

**Protection Coordination:** UNHCR hosted the National Refugee Protection Working Group meeting on 29 August 2019 and provided a situation analysis of the protection environment. The livelihoods sector represented by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), was invited to deliver a presentation on the livelihoods and resilience sector draft strategy. This is part of the initiative to ensure the integration of crosscutting issues through linkages between protection and other sectors. Additionally, on 28 August, a Protection Advisory Group meeting was called to provide feedback to the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development on the Jobs and Livelihoods Integrated Response Plan, which is expected to be adopted at the next Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) Steering Group meeting on 4 October 2019.



## EDUCATION

As part of UNHCR's Connected Learning Programme, UNHCR with funding from Google facilitated the Kolibri platform training for 39 participants from Moyo, Adjumani and Kampala. Kolibri is an open-source educational platform developed by Learning Equality, specially designed to provide offline access to a curated, openly-licensed educational content library. It has tools for pedagogical support for use in low-resource and low connectivity contexts and is being installed in secondary schools in Kampala, Adjumani and Moyo districts, through hardware donated by Google.org and Hewlett Packard (HP).



## HEALTH

A total of 284,045 consultations were made in all the refugee-serving health facilities in the refugee settlements within Uganda, compared to 296,196 in July 2019. Of the consultations made, 78% were refugees and 22% host populations. Top morbidity causes were: malaria at 47%; Upper Respiratory Tract Infections (URTI) at 10.2%; Lower Respiratory Tract Infections (LRTI) at 9.8%; skin diseases at 5.8%; watery diarrhea at 4%; eye disease at 2%; and intestinal worms at 2%.

In August 2019, 13,201 patients were admitted in the wards at the health clinics compared to 12,871 in July 2019. Of these, 65% were refugees and 35% from the host population. The main causes for admissions were: malaria at 55%; LRTI at 10%; watery diarrhea at 3%; and 32% were due to other causes not categorized.

Children under 5 years vaccinated against measles were 5,416 and 4,857 completed the polio vaccination.

A total of 3,694 deliveries were registered in August compared to 3,800 in July 2019. Of these, 71% were refugees and 29% were nationals.

People tested for HIV were 15,271, of which 57% were refugees and 43% host population. All those who tested positive for HIV were enrolled into HIV care and treatment. The total number of patients on Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) by end of August stood at 17,635 of which, 35% are refugees and 65% are host population.



## FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

UNHCR, WFP, refugees and partners joined District Local Governments in all respective settlements, to commemorate the 2019 World Breastfeeding Week, which took place from 1- 7 August 2019. The theme for 2019 is Empower Parents, Enable Breastfeeding. Stakeholders engaged in several activities aimed to support, promote, and protect optimal breastfeeding.



## WATER AND SANITATION

Per capita access to water is 16 litres per person per day (l/p/d). In the settlements receiving new refugees, the average amount of water available per person per day slightly decreased due to the pressure on the existing systems. However, on-going efforts are made to increase the amount and improve the efficiency of water schemes to increase the daily available amount of water: Several new (solar powered) water schemes are under construction alongside extensions on existing systems. Currently, only 1.5% of the water is still delivered by trucking. Sensitization about the safe water chain is ongoing, to maintain the quality of the water provided from collection (tap stand) to consumption.

Although additional family latrines were constructed in refugee settlements, the household latrine coverage has not improved compared to the previous month (63.8%) due to the continuous influx of refugees. Latrine construction for persons with specific needs (PSN) continues and there are efforts to increase the amount of handwashing facilities.

Activities related to Ebola preparedness and response, aimed at Infection Prevention and Control continue. This is in addition to behaviour change communication. Handwashing is being emphasized at reception centres, transit centres, institutions and at settlement level.



## SHELTER, SETTLEMENTS AND NFIS

Compared to July 2019, over 1.5 times the number of household (HH) plot demarcations (30m x 30m combined shelter and agriculture) were achieved for new arrivals to Kyaka II refugee settlement, totalling 1,846 households. These demarcations will contribute to easing the strain on transit and reception facilities, as refugees from DRC continue to enter Uganda. In Nakivale refugee settlement, a total of 1,291 households (5,429 individuals) were supported with new arrival Non-Food Items (NFI) and emergency shelter kits, as well as allocated 30m x 30m plots of land in Kabazana B. However, the majority of these HHs (1,045 in total) did not receive any construction poles.

In Bidibidi, a total of 469 PSNs, of which 341 are female, were assessed for shelter support by the PSN shelter assessment committee in Zones 1-5, in preparation for the upcoming semi-permanent shelter programmes. Within the same settlement, Mercy Corps and Hailybury Youth Trust are in the final stages of constructing an innovation centre using interlocking soil stabilised blocks (ISSB) in a train-as-you-build programme with over 20 youth involved.

Catholic Relief Service (CRS) was able to complete four out of the five planned semi-permanent shelters in Bidibidi, as well as four in Kiryandongo and two in Kyangwali refugee settlements, as part of UNHCR's pilot project to test the Shelter, Settlements, Non-Food Items Working Group's (SSNFI WG's) strategic principles. Peace Winds Japan (PWJ) is constructing 10 pilot shelters in Rhino (6) and Imvepi (4) refugee settlements, and the expected project completion being end of September 2019. In Adjumani and Lamwo refugee settlements, Lutheran World Federation (LWF) will soon release the first conditional cash instalments to the 10 beneficiary households for their shelter pilot and aim to finish it before the end of September 2019.

The 8.2 km mechanised road rehabilitation pilot project in Rhino Camp with UNHCR-owned machinery is ongoing, with expected completion by 10 September 2019. In terms of labour-intensive cash for work road projects, the Danish Refugee Council has led the opening of over 2 km of new community access roads in Byabakora of Kyaka II, out of an overall target of 20 km.

The urgent repair and finishing works at Sweswe's Vocational Training Centre have begun with progress at 60% completion by the end of August. This project should finish by mid-September.

In Palorinya refugee settlement, the construction of 3 server houses for registration began in Ibakwe, Zone II and Dongo West.

### Challenges

The urgent need for road rehabilitation and maintenance across all refugee-hosting Districts is increasing as the rains continue (or will soon approach, depending on the location). Delays in finalising roadwork contracts and limited funding for UNHCR has contributed to this remaining gap. One of Bidibidi's main roads (leading to base camp and UNHCR/WFP warehouses) is in dire condition and at risk of complete impasse if mechanised rehabilitation is not achieved as soon as possible.

The extension of the Opiro piped water system to Moyo's District Referral Hospital has not been commissioned because the previously-installed pump is not functioning, and power supply has not been provided to the pump house.

In the South West, a huge concern is the overcrowding at overnight communal accommodation shelters in transit/reception facilities, with some refugees having to sleep outside for lack of space. It is important to speed up settling new arrivals on plots as soon as they have been registered, as well as the protection cases that have been relocated from another settlement. The Nyakabande Transit Centre needs a screening shelter to facilitate due reception procedures.

Amongst operational partners in Bidibidi, there is ongoing construction for 104 semi-permanent PSN shelters by Plan International (14) and Here is Life NGO (90), utilising the contractor-driven model that is not aligned to the SSNFI WG's recently agreed strategic principles, for community and cash-based shelter support.



### ENVIRONMENT AND ACCESS TO ENERGY

Across the operations, more than 2,100 energy-saving stoves and six institutional stoves were produced and installed in households and institutions, respectively. A total of 11,647 kilograms of briquettes were produced and distributed to over 110 households, while over 700 people benefited from training and sensitization on stove fabrication and energy-saving practices. More than 220,000 seedlings were planted over 14 hectares (with majority used for gap-filling), while nearly 70,000 seedlings were raised in nurseries for next-season's planting. Over 1,900 people attended environmental sensitization meetings organized by UNHCR and partners.

Most activities were reported in Kyangwali refugee settlement, including production of 365kg of briquettes,

ongoing construction of 1 biogas digester and training of 91 people on energy-saving activities. This is in addition to establishment of one new tree nursery, 12 hectares of woodlots, raising of 68,734 assorted seedlings in nurseries and planting of 63,430 assorted seedlings. Under cash-based interventions, UGX 12,750,000 was transferred to 140 households.

In Kiryandongo refugee settlement, 615 energy-saving stoves were constructed, a similar number of people were trained on fabrication of the stoves and conducted awareness events on energy-saving practices for 707 people. In addition, 8 hectares of woodlots were maintained, 4,022 assorted tree seedlings planted, 520 trees caged and 650 people in both host and refugee communities sensitized.

In Palorinya refugee settlement, 1,115 energy-saving stoves and 5,782 kilograms of briquettes were produced. Under environment, 3,8637 assorted seedlings were planted, and 1,332 people benefitted from sensitization sessions.

In Rwamwanja refugee settlement, 5,500 kilograms of briquettes were produced and distributed. In addition, six institutional stoves were installed.

In Lamwo and Adjumani refugee settlements, 120,000 assorted seedlings were planted, and 444 improved stoves were moulded and procured for supporting households.

**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, Kyeggegwaa, 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 Officer 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 (CW), 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)

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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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