

Uganda

July, 2019

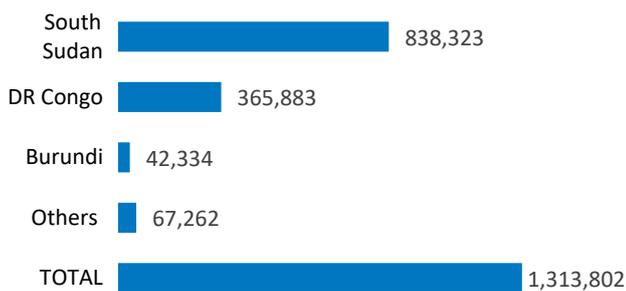
During the month of July 2019, 15,719 refugees from South Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Burundi arrived in Uganda, majority from the DRC. The humanitarian situation remains unpredictable in South Sudan and the DRC.

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

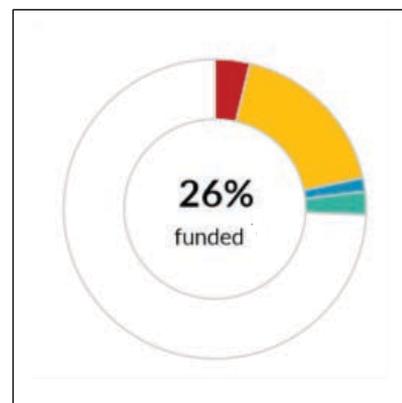
Refugees and Asylum-Seekers by Nationality



UNHCR FUNDING (AS OF 30 JULY 2019)

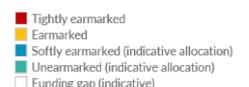
USD 386.2 M

UNHCR's financial requirements 2019:



Unfunded 74% - 287M

Funded 26% - 99M



15,719

Number of **new arrivals** during July 2019.

Based on SSD, DRC and Burundi figures

507

Daily average of new arrivals during July 2019.

Based on SSD, DRC and Burundi figures

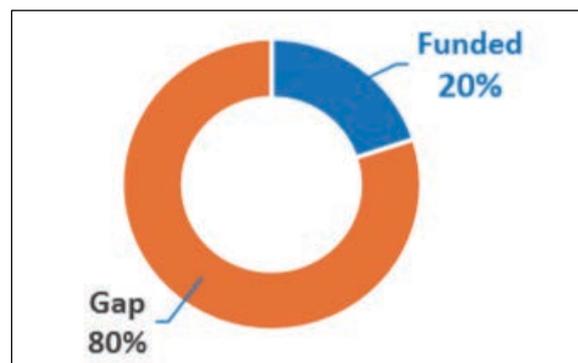
1,313,802

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

2019-2020 Uganda RRP | Tentative Funding Update*

Requirements for 2019: USD 927M

Funded: USD 189M





Elisha Ndashine, 11, rides around Rwamanja refugee settlement, Kamwenge district, on the bike which he and his friends have made out of wood. Photo ©UNHCR/Duniya Aslam Khan

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).

During the month of July, the new arrivals from DRC were 11,010 persons; 2,152 from South Sudan; 1,266 from Somalia; and 703 from Burundi, representing an upward trend in monthly arrivals.

South Sudan Independence:

South Sudan celebrated its 8th Anniversary as an independent country on 9 July 2019. Uganda is currently home to 838,323 refugees from South Sudan. As part of the anniversary celebrations, below are three stories from South Sudanese refugees in Uganda.

- Profile story of 46-year-old, South Sudanese refugee, [Majua Enoke Kiri](#)
- Profile story of 21-year-old, South Sudanese twins, [Eusu Francis and Jacob Francis](#)
- Profile story of 17-year-old, South Sudanese refugee, [Wenepaida Hellen Patience](#)



PROTECTION

Statelessness: UNHCR attended a roundtable meeting held by the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs' on the registration of children born of war. The meeting organized by the International Centre for Transitional Justice (ICTJ), in collaboration with the National Identification and Registration Authority (NIRA), was held on 5 July 2019. It triggered discussions on the possible means to ensure that children born of parents affected by the Lord Resistance Army (LRA) conflict have access to birth certificates and other forms of

identification. NIRA clarified that children born outside Uganda (to mothers in captivity), will not be issued with birth certificates because they were not born on the territory. This position may potentially leave such children stateless and unable to access services like education and scholarships that require birth certificates.

The Inter-Agency Helpline FRRM: In July 2019, a total of 1,878 cases were recorded through the FRRM helpline, representing a 2.5% decrease from June 2019. Of the cases received, 766 cases were reported by female and 1,112 by male with majority in the age-group of 26-35 years. A total of 880 cases were handled at helpline level, while 998 referrals were made to UNHCR and partners for follow up. Of the cases received, 34% were addressed during the reporting period while 3.6% were followed up by respective focal points. More than 50% of the referrals remained unaddressed, within the reporting period, a gap which needs to be bridged further. However, the cases addressed indicate an improvement of more than 20% in case response, largely attributed to an upscale in capacity of focal persons.

Most of the cases were General Queries (339); Durable Solutions (342); Health and Nutrition (242); and Community based protection (318). The South and Mid-west continued to report high numbers with 891 received from Nakivale settlement and 344 from Kyanwagali settlement. Usage of the helpline in the West Nile remained low with a 19% decrease in cases received between June and July. However, information dissemination is being scaled up in the region in a bid to improve uptake of the helpline. A number of glitches in the FRRM system were equally observed which, partly incapacitated focal persons from responding to cases referred to them, an issue which is being addressed with urgency.

Urban Response: In July UNHCR held Townhall meetings with Somali and Congolese refugee leaders. One of the key issues raised was concerning the rotation of Somalis interpreters at the OPM Offices. The leadership also requested UNHCR to follow up on Somalis refugees who are currently in prison and not allowed visitation by family members. The leadership also mentioned that the Somalis feel segregated in Kampala citing instances linked to Al-Shabaab and as such, affecting peaceful co-existence with the host communities. UNHCR will follow up on the concerns raised including peace building initiatives in host communities where Somalis live, in order to address the concerns raised about segregation. The meeting with the Congolese leadership was held as a follow-up on allegations raised related to extortion of money from refugees with promises of resettlement. Feedback from the leadership clarified that there is a registered association of Congolese refugees established in 2009 and membership fees is UGX 15,000 (Fifteen thousand Uganda Shillings). In addition to the membership fee, voluntary contributions are made during weekly meetings to support fellow Congolese refugees. The funds received are used to address emergency issues members may be facing and this was agreed upon by the community.

Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV): Uganda operation received an external evaluation mission by Nivanti Group, commissioned by The Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (BPRM), to assess the impact of the Safe from the Start (SfS) interventions in Uganda, from 3 to 12 July 2019. Among other issues, the mission underscored the positive example of Uganda as a host country in relation to social norms and how that helps with re-integration of South Sudanese and Congolese as far as prevention of SGBV is concerned.



EDUCATION

In order to strengthen access to and quality of education services for refugee and host community children and youth, UNHCR implements activities both directly and through partners. UNHCR currently provides education service delivery in over 280 settlement schools at primary and secondary level, supporting 246,889 children to access education (including 72,111 children from the host community). With a total budget of almost USD\$12,000,000, UNHCR is constructing new classrooms, purchasing school equipment and providing teaching and learning materials; training and remunerating teachers and teaching assistants; and supporting teacher professional development, on aspects such as multi-grade and large size classroom teaching techniques, positive discipline as well as teacher and children's psycho-social wellbeing.

The Education Response Plan for Refugees and Host Communities in Uganda (ERP) is currently undergoing a review and revision process, which began at district level in the Mid-West and South West of the country in June 2019. In July, districts in West Nile participated with workshops in Adjumani and Arua, catering to the refugee hosting districts of Adjumani, Lamwo, Moyo, Arua, Koboko and Yumbe. This consultative process is conducted to maximise feedback and discussion with Government counterparts, refugee representatives and education sector partners representing both districts and settlements. Feedback and guidance from this **completed “roadshow” is feeding into the planning and prioritisation for 2020.**

The objectives of the consultations were to:

- 1) Re-orient education actors and District Local Government staff on the ERP,
- 2) Provide updates on the review progress of the ERP,
- 3) Identify the key issues, challenges and priorities related to education at the district level; and
- 4) Describe the next steps of the ERP district level planning process.

COMPREHENSIVE REFUGEE RESPONSE FRAMEWORK (CRRF)

The National Planning Authority (NPA) is currently holding weekly consultations with multi-stakeholders in Kampala on the National Development Plan III. Three of the five policy series took place focusing on: human capital development; value addition and inclusive growth; and good governance. In addition, NPA is also holding workshops targeting all districts and municipalities to validate the revised Local Government Development Planning (LGDP) guidelines and consult on the priorities for the National Development Plan III. UNHCR will continue to engage on the remaining consultations and the advocacy to mainstream refugees in the NDPIII, in order to ensure the sustainability of the refugee response and effective coordination between humanitarian and development programmes.

The CRRF quarterly coordination meeting was held in Adjumani District Headquarters on 25 July 2019. The need to strengthen coordination at the district and settlements levels, as well as the measures to streamline and integrate service delivery for refugees into the District Development Plan and eventually into National Development Plan III, were discussed. The coordination is meant to streamline interventions and avoid duplication of resources and service delivery in the refugee response.

LIVELIHOODS

In Palorinya refugee settlement, the Lutheran World Federation (LWF), with funding from UNHCR, supported 45 business groups (30 Refugees and 15 host community). The groups had a total of 580 members (380 female and 200 male), who received business cash grants amounting to UGX 86,600,000. The funds were transferred to the groups' bank accounts, in order to enable them undertake viable enterprises of their choice, and also improve household access to income and self-employment.

In addition, with funding from the Bureau for Population, Refugees and Migration (BPRM), LWF also supported 20 (11 female and 9 male) youth to undergo skills training with artisans. The youth (14 refugees and 6 host community) underwent training in tailoring, motor vehicle mechanics, hair dressing, carpentry and joinery. At the end of the training, they received assorted start up tools to enhance their learning.



HEALTH

A total of 296,196 consultations were made in all the refugee serving health facilities in the refugee settlements within Uganda, compared to 253,176 in June 2019. Of the consultations made, 78% were refugees and 22% host populations. Top morbidity causes were: malaria at 49%; Upper Respiratory Tract Infections (URTI) at 10.8%; Lower Respiratory Tract Infections (LRTI) at 9.2%; skin diseases at 5.3%; watery diarrhoea at 3%; eye disease at 2%; and intestinal worms at 2%.

In July 2019, 12,871 patients were admitted in the wards at the health clinics compared to 12,993 admitted in June 2019. Of these, 66% were refugees and 34% from the host population. The main causes for admissions were: malaria at 59%; LRTI at 9%; watery diarrhea at 2%; and 29% were due to other causes not categorized.

Children under 5 years vaccinated against measles were 4,905, of which 68% were refugees, and 5,042 (70% refugees) completed the polio vaccination.

A total of 3,800 deliveries were registered in July compared to 3,845 in June 2019. Of these, 70% were refugees and 30% were nationals.

People tested for HIV were 17,011, of which 55% were refugees and 45% 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 July stood at 17,337 of which, 35% are refugees and 65% are host population.

UNHCR participated in Multi-stakeholders dialogue meeting to discuss comprehensive response to Human Rights related barriers for HIV/TB/Malaria Services and the Human Rights Based Approach for elimination of HIV/AIDs and TB in the criminal justice systems. The discussions held on 23rd July 2019, in Kampala, centered around dealing with stigma, ensuring access for minority groups and creating awareness to remove Human Rights barriers to access to services.

Global Fund ACT Accountability Report: UNHCR completed the accountability report on Global Fund for malaria commodities (ACTs), so far received in 2019 from the Ministry of Health (MoH). A similar request of additional malaria commodities was placed and MoH has agreed to provide UNHCR with 4 months of stock through December 2019.

Dispatch of medicines: UNHCR has continued to dispatch medicines balances (IV fluids, Albendazole, Lab reagents) to replenish stocks. The first consignment of medical supplies (HIV test kits) was received from international suppliers and distributed to the partners.



FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

In July 2019, UNHCR health and nutrition partners treated 2,871 children across all settlements for severe acute malnutrition, 63% of whom were refugees and 37% nationals. Vitamin A doses I & II was given to 9,505 children, 70% of whom were refugees, while 226 women received vitamin A postnatal.

UNHCR, through the Nutrition Development Partners Group (NDPG), joined the government of Uganda, CSOs, academia and the private sector to validate the draft of the Uganda Nutrition Action Plan II (UNAP II). Developed from UNAP I, guided by existing policy and legal frameworks, this action plan addresses nutritional needs of all Ugandans and refugees by attracting multi-sectoral commitment to nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive priority actions, supported by an enabling environment. The validation workshop took place from 24 to 26 July 2019 at Estella Country Hotel. The Office of the Prime Minister is the UNAP II secretariat.



WATER AND SANITATION

In July, per capita access to water was above 16 litres per person per day (lppd). However, in some sections of Kyaka II and Kyangwali refugee settlements the persons of concern received less than 10 lppd, from safe sources. Household water treatment chemicals distribution is ongoing, alongside sensitization on usage to support families collecting water from unsafe sources. Several new (solar powered) water schemes are under construction alongside extensions on existing systems, to increase the delivery of water to refugees and host communities across the operation.

Sanitation coverage keeps increasing and the implementation of dome shape slabs started in Kyaka II and Kyangwali refugee settlements. Multiple temporary latrines are constructed in reception centres, to decrease the risk of spreading diseases as a result of congestion following the influx of DRC refugees.

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



SHELTER, SETTLEMENTS AND NFIS

Compared to June 2019, there was more than a threefold increase in plot demarcations of 30m x 30m (combined shelter and agriculture) for new arrivals to Kyaka II refugee settlement. This was to facilitate the relocation of 1,207 households (2,487 individuals) from the Sweswe Reception Centre and to prepare for additional new arrivals. This in turn, will contribute to easing the strain on transit and reception facilities as refugees from DRC continue to enter Uganda. In addition, a total of 534 households (3,517 individuals) were settled in Nakivale on 30m x 30m plots (combined shelter and agriculture), in Kabazana A. In Arua District, a total of 525 household plots were allocated to newly registered South Sudanese refugee households, 379 in Imvepi and 146 in Rhino Camp.

After receiving OPM approval for UNHCR's pilot of semi-permanent shelters for Persons with Specific Needs (PSNs), in accordance with a revised community and cash-based approach, Catholic Relief Services (CRS) began implementation in Bidibidi, Kyangwali and Kiryandongo refugee settlements. In Kyangwali, construction began for two unburnt mud brick shelters while in Kiryandongo, piloting of two Interlocking Soil Stabilised Block (ISSB) and two unburnt mud brick shelters is taking place. All 11 shelters by CRS will be completed before the end of August.

In Rhino and Imvepi refugee settlements, where Peace Winds Japan (PWJ) is responsible for 10 shelters as part of the pilot project, initial meetings were held with OPM, UNHCR, shelter beneficiaries and refugee leaders. The refugee leaders and contractors were impressed with the new approach of community engagement as it seems more transparent and accountable. The outcomes and lessons learnt from this pilot will inform the final shelter strategy to be approved by OPM.

Throughout July, a total of 58 new emergency shelters were built by PWJ for extremely vulnerable households upon plot allocation in Imvepi (42 units) and Rhino (16 units). In addition, PWJ repaired 12 existing emergency shelters for targeted vulnerable households in Imvepi (10 units) and Rhino (2 units). In order to facilitate the continuous biometric registration of new arrivals with ProGres V4, the construction of new server rooms in Bidibidi (2), Kyangwali (3) and Kiryandongo (2) began in July 2019.

A very positive and proactive achievement to highlight is the execution of a refugee 'Cash for Work' pilot project for labour-intensive road repairs in Imvepi Zone 1 on 29 July 2019. Led by the UNHCR site planner in Arua, a small portion of the road was repaired to facilitate the crucial passage of water bowsers that deliver to the storage tanks supplying drinking water to recently settled refugees. Further assessments will be conducted to determine the lessons learnt and potential way forward for scaling up such projects.

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. Only 7.5km of roads in Kisoro have received mechanised rehabilitation so far in 2019. Delays in finalising roadwork contracts and limited funding for UNHCR has contributed to this remaining gap. In particular, access to Bidibidi Zone 3, Village 16, is limited because of an extremely bad rocky area along the road. There is a high chance that this will hinder and even prevent the delivery of food to Village 16 by WFP in the next cycle.



ENVIRONMENT AND ACCESS TO ENERGY

Across the operation, UNHCR made progress on implementation and coordination of the Environment and Energy strategy and targets in the Refugee Response Plan. As rains were late across many areas in the north, planting of more than 490,000 assorted seedlings (fruit, indigenous and exotic) continued into July, bringing the cumulative total to more than 2.3 million seedlings. Over 2,000 hectares were restored or planted across the refugee-hosting communities, (including gap-filling) using incentivized approaches. This effort included seedlings raised from 488 kg of seed and over 230,000 seedlings provided by the National Forestry Authority (NFA). Mapping of newly established woodlots has continued in Arua using KOBO forms, with plans to expand the approach across the response. Access to energy was increased as groups were trained and continued to fabricate energy-saving stoves, cooking baskets and to produce briquettes. More than 810 energy-saving stoves were constructed and accessed, and 7,000 kg of briquettes produced. Sensitization sessions were also conducted on both environmental protection and energy saving.

In Yumbe district, 252,375 assorted seedlings were planted across 222 hectares in the five zones and surrounding sub-counties under cash-based interventions. Cash-based interventions were reported in Yumbe by partners for Forest Protection/Management and Energy.

In Adjumani and Lamwo districts, 60,000 assorted tree seedlings were planted and transplanting is expected to be completed mid-August when the last batch of seedlings will be delivered.

In Palorinya, UNHCR in collaboration with Lutheran World Federation (LWF) distributed 29,563 fruit seedlings to 17,389 households and 22 institutions, bringing the total to 112,770 seedlings planted so far in 2019.

Moyo District Local Government, with funding from UNHCR, supported the establishment of 6 hectares of woodlots. The district has also started to develop a Moyo District Forest Development Plan.

In Kiryandongo district, Danish Refugee Council (DRC) established 7.5 hectares of woodlots in two institutions and distributed 18,937 assorted seedlings of both wood and fruit trees to 186 individuals (89 in Refugee Communities and 97 in Host Community) as well as 11 institutions (schools and churches) aimed to increase forest cover, gap filling, provide shade to kiln structures, and boundary tree planting.

In Kyangwali refugee settlement, 37 hectares of *Maesopsis eminii* were planted near Bugoma forest; pot-filling commenced in the tree nursery for raising orange and mango root stock.

The survival rate of planted seedlings in Kyangwali was 86%, which is above the performance monitoring threshold of 85%. Kiryandongo has a survival rate of 90% while Arua reported a survival rate above 80%. It is noted that innovations such as Taungya system in management of trees together with crops, as well as fencing of the woodlots, has enhanced survival of the trees.

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)

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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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