



# UNHCR Monthly Protection Update

## Urban Protection Response

### April 2019

#### Key Figures

63,125

Total number of persons of concern to UNHCR registered in urban areas

45,329

Are registered refugees

17,796

Are registered asylum seekers

30,284

Are registered females

#### CHILD PROTECTION

Number of Unaccompanied and Separated children	7 (3F/4M)
Number of other children with specific needs	23 (13F/10M)
Number of Children in Foster Care	0

#### SGBV INCIDENTS (MARCH 2019)

Incident	Number
Rape	10
Physical Assault	1
Forced marriage	2
Total	13



World Bank Mission at the Refugee Community Centre

#### Key highlights

- The Uganda Operation received a mission from the World Bank that sought to foster a better understanding of the refugee situation and progress of the World Bank joint response with UNHCR on issues of refugees and forced displacement in Uganda. To help understand resilience strategies of urban refugees, an exhibition of refugee self-reliance activities was organized at the Refugee Community Centre. A **panel discussion focusing on refugee policy and status** in Uganda was also held. Participants included the Minister for Relief, Disaster Preparedness and Refugees; UNHCR Representative; World Bank Country Manager; Commissioner for Refugees-OPM; Director of NUSAF 3 and DRDIP of OPM; the Ambassador of the Netherlands and a female refugee representative.
- UNHCR facilitated voluntary repatriation for a Somali refugee from Kampala to Gorowe, Somalia. The returnee was received in Somalia by UNHCR Colleagues and reunited with family.
- On 25<sup>th</sup> April, a town hall meeting with the Rwandan refugee community was held at the Antonio Guterres community centre. Some key protection concerns raised include; alleged kidnaps, killings, arbitrary arrests and detentions some of which are perpetrated by suspected Rwandan agents with Ugandan authorities. Discrimination by UNHCR in resettlement processing and delays in feedback of individual protection requests was also raised.
- Interaid Uganda (IAU) participated in a dissemination meeting of the Uganda National Youth Policy (2016) and its National Action Plan organised by Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MGLSD). The meeting sought to guide on youth issues. Participants explored possible ways of effective implementation of the policy and made recommendations.



World Bank Directors interacting with livelihood groups

## Sexual and Gender Based Violence

- In April, 13 new SGBV incidents (12F/1M) were reported and documented in the GBVIMS. Among the incidents reported were rape (10), physical assault (1) and forced marriage (2). The survivors received the required multi-sectoral responses based on their need and consent. Support included psychosocial (13), health (11), legal (2), and safety/security (2) assistance.
- Underreporting of SGBV cases remains a major concern, due to a variety of factors including fear of stigma, shame, family reaction and dissolution, perception of SGBV as a private matter, or lack of confidence in reporting channels. Most survivors remain silent due to fear of reprimanding and/or mistrust on getting supported if reported.

## Child Protection

- In partnership with Reach A Hand Children Ministry and Orphanage Centre, Industrial Cottages and skills, IAU organized a 03 day Behavioural Change Communication (BCC) training and profiling of 60 (30M/30F) urban adolescents. Some of the issues covered included; HIV/AIDs, teenage pregnancies, moral conduct, sex, sexuality and self-awareness. 02 groups, Chatty and Nabulagala FC adolescent clubs, through a peer to peer approach were tasked to share this information through creative sports, music, dance and drama. On the development front, 20 (10M/10F) adolescents were supported with vocational skills and knowledge. They were further encouraged to pass on the same to other adolescents, child mothers and youth to start-up small scale factories for production of paper bags, table mats and envelopes among others.
- IAU in partnership with Naguru Teenage information and Health center (NTIHC) held a reproductive health camp at Nateete Muslim Primary School. A total of 200 (133F/67M) adolescents attended. Participants were mentored on reproductive health knowledge, sexually transmitted diseases – including and HIV/AIDS, menstrual hygiene, physical body changes and personal hygiene. The project aims at empowering young people with reproductive health information.



*Adolescents listening to a facilitator from Naguru teenage centre.*

- A two day training on the new UNHCR BID procedures and guidelines for 09 IAU staff was conducted by UNHCR Child Protection team. The aim of the training was to update the staff on new developments as well as refresh their knowledge and skill on child protection.

## Education

- A session was held with parents of Katwe (Makindye division) whose children are already enrolled in ECD, to mobilise other parents to enrol in the ECD centres connected to Government schools and ECD centres within the community which are run by fellow PoC's.
- A quarterly meeting was held with KCCA Education Division Supervisors from the five divisions of Kampala. 13 people were in attendance and a presentation on the roll out of the Kolibre Platform in selected secondary schools was made.
- School fees was paid for 20 vulnerable children and additionally for 14 children with disability in both primary and secondary school for term one 2019.

**Inter-agency Feedback, Referral and Resolution Mechanism (FRRM):** There were 239 (111F/128M) logged cases during the reporting period. Only one case that required urgent follow-up (category 5) was received. 216 cases were recorded from refugees, 21 from asylum seekers, and 02 from other caller categories. 149 cases were handled at helpline level, while 90 were referred to UNHCR and partners for follow-up and feedback provided for 10 of these. The majority of cases (101) were received from individuals between the ages of 36-

45 years. The top 4 cases received by sector were durable Solutions (77), General Protection/community based protection (40), General Queries (35), Health and Nutrition (28).

## Health

- 942 **outpatient consultations** were made, 140 patients were referred from refugee settlements for tertiary medical care/services at national referral Hospitals.
- 65 persons were educated on non-communicable diseases including hypertension, diabetes, asthma and cancers. 37 persons were screened for hypertension and 04 were linked to Kawaala HC III for further management. 01 female identified with breast mass and referred to the cancer institute for further management.
- **Ebola training** was conducted by the Ministry of Health, UNICEF, and IDI for 125 persons including 100 VHTs.
- **Mental Health:** Psycho-therapy group sessions were conducted for 07 women with PTSD and Depression. Psychosocial and psychological support was also extended to 45 PoCs. 42 cases were handled at Butabika National Referral
- **Maternal Health:** 98 pregnant mothers were followed up in ANC. All were tested for HIV and 04 turned out positive while 09 high risk pregnancies were detected. All 98 pregnant mothers tested for STI were negative, 28 received 2nd dose of TT during ANC, 22 received IPT3 and more for malaria and 76 received Mosquito nets during the visits. Postnatal care followed -up 36 clients .02 below 18 years and 34 above 18 years.
- **HIV/AIDS:** 65 (44F/21M) individuals were tested for HIV. 04 tested positive and were linked to Kisenyi HC IV for care. Conducted a dialogue on self-test 10 person attended.

## Community mobilization and youth empowerment

- 30 refugee members of different groups and associations received training in baking, soap and Vaseline. The objective of the training was to equip PoCs with skills to enable them diversify their IGAs (Income Generating Activities).

- 107 (51F/56M) PoCs accessed the community centre in Kabusu for language learning (English) to enable them to easily access services and business opportunities in Kampala. Training was facilitated by the Refugees Drivers Association housed at the centre.
- 51 female youth PoCs have been mobilized and have undergone training by LIFT Women's group at the Antonio Gutierrez Urban Refugee Community Centre in hair dressing, Craft and Jewelry, Kitengi book with an aim of empowering them with practical employable skills.

## Persons with Specific Needs (PSNs)

- From 20<sup>th</sup> March – 20<sup>th</sup> April 2019, 1766 (1079/687M) PSNs approached and received different services from IAU office. 802 received medical attention, 213 legal advice, 751 counselling related to their specific needs including 302 for psych-social counselling, 60 were identified and supported with cash grants for food and shelter to enable them cope in the urban. 21 home visits were conducted to provide home based psychosocial counselling to PSNs. Group counselling was also conducted for 7 groups different refugee communities.
- In addition, 96(59F/37M) older persons received services at IAU; 46 received counselling on coping mechanisms in the urban, 34 received medical services, 9 received legal advice while 7 were supported with cash grants for shelter and food.
- 5 community outreaches were conducted in Ndejje, old Kampala, Kisenyi and Nsambya. 172 PSNs were assisted with clothing.
- Quarterly coordination meetings were conducted at the refugee community centre in Kabusu on 18<sup>th</sup> April and in Kisenyi with the Somali community. Among the challenges raised include lack of access to government health facilities, challenges of self-sustenance in the urban due to chronic medical conditions and old age and the need for more assistive devices like wheel chairs and crutches.



Persons living with disability attending the second quarterly coordination meeting in Kisenyi

- 06 LGBTI persons of concern were provided with individual counselling related to their unique concerns.
- 103(55F/48M) refugees living with disabilities received different services; 21 advised on self-reliance skills, 78 medical attention, 4 with cash grants to enhance their capacity to cope in the urban.
- A separate group of 86 women and girls of reproductive age received approached IAU office and received sanitary towels to enable them maintain personal hygiene and go on with their daily lives.

### Statelessness

- UNHCR Uganda attended a Ministerial Conference on Eradication of statelessness in the Great Lakes Region in Nairobi from 16-18 April. The conference was attended by Experts from the 12 ICGLR (International Conference of the Great Lakes Region) states. The purpose of the conference was to review progress by members' states in achieving commitments to the Brazzaville Declaration as well as the Regional Action Plan. Member States also reviewed an addendum and extended the Regional Action Plan from 2019 - 2024 to align with the #IBelong campaign. Uganda was represented at the event by the Minister of Internal Affairs who made 7 pledges on behalf of the Government.

### Needs and Gaps

- There are inadequate and appropriate individual case management infrastructure at IAU for appropriate interviewing and counselling spaces including child friendly spaces.

- A sign language interpreter and the necessary resources are required to ensure that persons with hearing impairments especially children can receive the necessary support and assistance.
- There are no child friendly interviews rooms and play areas for children at the IAU office premises neither are there facilities to cater for persons with disabilities.
- The Antonio Gutierrez community centre is a dilapidated structure and the WASH facilities are in a dire state. The new community centre in Gogoonya, Nsambya lacks facilities to cater for PWDs.
- The two urban community centres serving refugees and nationals are ill equipped and in need of additional and well facilitated trainers, functional and well maintained sewing machines and computers with internet connection.
- Although SGBV continued to receive high attention, this is often not reflected in resource allocation especially in the urban setting where the SGBV incidents remain underreported; survivors of SGBV experience wide range of physical, psychological and social consequences that add trauma to their lives.
- Livelihoods opportunities for the urban persons of concern remains a challenge although some refugees have expressed interest in marketable skills training for immediate employment, the available resources at the community centres are inadequate to meet the growing demand for the different categories of refugees and host communities.

#### PARTNERS

The Office of the Prime Minister's (OPM) - Directorate of Refugees

InterAid Uganda (IAU). A local Non-Governmental Organization, International Office for Migration (IOM), Refugee Law Project (RLP), Centre for Domestic Violence Prevention (CEDOVIP), African Centre for Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture Victims (ACTV), ActionAid Uganda, Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES), Windle International Uganda (WIU), Finn Church Aid (FCA), Jesuit Relief Services (JRS) and Ministry of Gender, labour and Social development (MGLSD), Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Centre for Women in Governance (CEWIGO), Care and Assistance for Forced Migrants (CAFOMI), Reproductive Health Uganda (RHU).

#### CONTACTS

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