

Uganda

1 – 31 August 2020

There were **no new arrivals** during the month of August 2020. However, the humanitarian situation remains unpredictable in South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

COVID-19 UPDATE

Cumulatively, there were **2,972 confirmed cases** of COVID-19 as of 31 August 2020 of whom, **89 are refugees** and **42 humanitarian workers**.

The cumulative number includes **1,652 recoveries**, **58 of whom were refugees**. **Thirty-two deaths** were reported, **two** of whom are **refugees**.

0

Number of **new arrivals** during August 2020, based on border monitoring.

1,404,858*

Total **refugees** in Uganda as of 31 August 2020.

24,410

Total **asylum-seekers** in Uganda as of 31 August 2020.

*Increase in number is due to registration backlog, new-borns and new arrivals in July through Zombo.

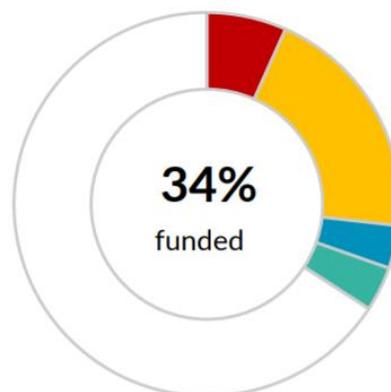


Face mask distribution in Pagirinya settlement, Adjumani district. Photo ©Elvira Ndanga/UNHCR

UNHCR'S FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS 2020:

USD 357.1M

UNHCR Funding (as of 31 August 2020)



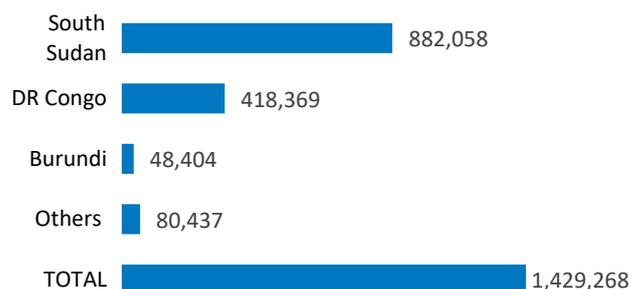
Unfunded 66% - **235.1 M**

Funded 34% - **122 M**

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

POPULATIONS OF CONCERN

Refugees and Asylum-Seekers by Nationality





UNHCR teams at litigation desks provide support in resolving complaints arising during food and cash distribution in Kyaka II settlement. Photo ©Robert Bawube/ADRA

Operational Highlights

Cumulatively, since March 2020, 89 refugees tested positive for COVID-19, with two reported deaths. On 31 August 2020, the nationwide figure for COVID-19 positive cases stood at 2,972 cases and 32 reported deaths.

UNHCR and partners supported the Ministry of Health (MoH) in investigating 27,161 COVID-19 alerts and 4,976 tests targeting refugees. The support included transportation of samples to the Uganda Virus Research Institute.

Settlements located in Adjumani were reported to have the highest rates of covid-19 cases among refugees (42 cases), followed by Kyangwali (24), Kiryandongo (6), Bidibidi (5), Nakivale (5), Palabek (4), Kampala (2) and Parlorinya (1).

UNHCR and partner's support 21 COVID-19 quarantine centers across the country, located in settlements and at transit sites. The support includes medical supplies and personal protective equipment (PPEs), site management, food and logistics, for both Refugees and Ugandan nationals.

By 31 of August 2020, 4,915 individuals were admitted to these facilities, 3,562 asylum seekers and refugees and 1,353 Ugandans and other nationalities.

Registration: The planning figures for the 2020-2022 Uganda Operation were finalized, with a projected figure reaching 1,484,356 refugees and asylum seekers by the end of 2020, a slight projected increase for 2021 to reach 1,562,465 followed by a slight decrease by the end of 2022 with 1,442,280 refugees and asylum seekers. These are subject to fluctuation based on the developments in neighboring countries (South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo).

**PROTECTION****Achievements and Impact**

Refugee Status Determination: While established in September 2019, the Refugee Appeals Board (RAB) held its first session on 10 through to 14 August 2020. The session reviewed and amended its Rules of Procedure, and handled 15 appeals, mostly concerning Eritreans. UNHCR provided technical guidance as an observer. The RAB opted to conduct a hearing on all appeal cases under Regulation 33 of the Refugees Regulations.

On 14 August 2020, UNHCR supported the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) with a training session for interpreters to enhance understanding of roles and responsibilities, professional code of conduct, as well as effective interpretation skills. The training was attended by 31 participants (21 males and 10 female). UNHCR successfully advocated for the recruitment of additional interpreters (including six women) under the 2020 Project Partnership Agreement to expedite the processing of pending asylum applications.

On 26 August 2020, UNHCR facilitated a training session on Refugee Status Determination (RSD) for OPM protection staff in Kampala. The session was attended by seven officers (3 male and 4 female) to enhance their knowledge and interviewing skills. The training followed an interactive methodology through case studies and role-playing exercises.

Resettlement: The existing safety protocols for resettlement interviews remain in place to conduct remote interviews during the COVID-19 situation. However, counselling sessions on resettlement were temporarily suspended at the access center in Kampala due to the discovery of a COVID-19 case.

Community Based Protection: UNHCR developed support packages for community leaders to facilitate Age Gender and Diversity (AGD) awareness sessions with their communities. The support packages contains SASA! materials, posters, comics, as well as information about the UNHCR AGD Policy. The package also includes guidance on providing support to Persons with Specific Needs. The materials will help the leaders to facilitate conversations in their communities around participation in humanitarian programming and to advance gender equality by helping women and girls to claim their rights, provide support to older persons and include ethnic and religious minorities in decision-making. This step to build capacity of community leaders precedes distributing the packages to the broader community to maximize effectiveness.

Cash Assistance for Urban Refugees: As of 7 September, a total of 11,774 sim cards were issued to heads of households. Of the 11,774 sim cards, 5,848 were approved and activated whilst 4,930 sim cards failed the validation process due to technical glitches with the service provider Airtel and Uganda Communications Commission (UCC) Application Programming Interface (API) system. 996 are still pending re-entry/re-registration by Airtel.

Statelessness: UNHCR identified three Ugandan representatives from three civil society organizations (Minority Rights Group, Cross Cultural Foundation and International Refugee Rights Initiatives) to attend an on-line global training on Childhood Statelessness. The objective of the training is to build the capacities of stakeholders to advocate for the prevention of statelessness amongst children. The training will be rolled out from September to November 2020 and will cover five thematic modules with a blended learning approach. This pilot is a joint initiative between UNHCR and the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACEWRC).

**EDUCATION****Achievements and Impact**

UN Meeting on COVID and Education: UNHCR participated in the second UN meeting on COVID 19 and Education, convened under the UN Resident Coordinator. The meeting aimed at engaging members of the Government of Uganda scientific committee in a discussion on safe reopening of schools in Uganda. The UN will

support the scientific committee with guiding practices to balance feasible and practical public health measures for the re-opening of schools. Further consultation and planning are expected, together with MoES, prior to the release of the Ministry of Health Standard Operating Procedures for Ministries and agencies to reopen and adapt to COVID 19.

Education Response Plan: An online tool for tracking donor financial flows into the Education Response Plan (ERP) was developed, piloted and shared with Education in Emergencies Working Group (EiE), Education Development Partners (EDPs) and Local Governments for input. The ERP Secretariat also met with the Secretariat for Comprehensive Refugee Responses (CRRF Secretariat) and other line ministries who have sector response plans over the broader financial tracking exercise.

UNICEF and UNHCR LOU: A meeting was held to discuss the joint UNHCR-UNICEF Letter of Understanding (LOU) which expires at the end of the 2020. The two UN agencies exchanged experiences from the current arrangements and discussed ways forward. Changes related to the LOU will be communicated in due course, with the possibility to designate UNHCR as a co-chair for the district education meetings with UNICEF, since the latter is not present fully in all of the refugee hosting districts.

Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps

With the closure of schools reaching its sixth months mark, additional inter-sectorial coordination mechanisms on child protection are needed to ensure proper reporting through enhancing engagement of refugee community structures.



ENVIRONMENT AND ACCESS TO ENERGY

Achievements and Impact

In Kiryandongo settlement, 10.72 hectares of woodlots were established by OPM and UNHCR with support from DanChurchAid (DCA), Humanitarian Assistance and Development Services (HADS) and World Food Programme (WFP). Furthermore, 2,564 assorted tree seedlings of *Senna siamea*, *Eucalyptus grandis* and *Grevillea robusta* were planted. DCA established 93.8 hectares of new woodlots in Rhino Camp and Imvepi Settlements. This brings a cumulative number of new woodlots planted by the partner to 282.8 hectares.

In Palorinya settlement, UNHCR distributed 73,810 (67,614 through Lutheran World Federation and 6,196 by National Forestry Authority) assorted wood and fruit tree seedlings to 1,292 refugees (612 male and 680 female), 15 institutions and four restoration sites. The survival rates were 82.7 percent and 77.2 percent for individually owned and institutional woodlots in 31 woodlots in Obongi.

In Imvepi and Rhino Camp, UNHCR distributed 20,200 (11,300 by The Victim Relief Alliance and 8,900 by DCA) assorted fruit and woody tree seedlings to households for planting, which brings the cumulative number of seedlings distributed among households in the two settlements to 39, 885 seedlings reaching 7,867 households. A total of 15.1 hectares of existing woodlots were maintained through weeding and pruning in Rhino Camp and Imvepi settlements, which brings the cumulative figure of woodlots under maintenance to 29 hectares. In two central tree nurseries in Rhino Camp settlement, 79,338 seedlings of *Azadirachta indica* (18,963), *Carica papaya* (19,960), *Moringa oleifera* (19,821), *Sesbania sesban* (9,780), *Tectona grandis* (16,014) and *Azalia africana* (3,100) are being raised with support from TVRA, for household tree planting in the second planting season.

In Adjumani settlements, UNHCR planted over 54,000 assorted tree seedlings. Twenty-nine tree farmers established 34.3 hectares of woodlots, 93 percent of whom were males. The survival rates for the 17.5 hectares of woodlots assessed in Adjumani settlements were between 65 – 80 percent.

In Lamwo, UNHCR planted 3,186 assorted fruit seedlings which were planted by 75 households, (76 percent females) to improve their nutrition and income generation options. In addition, 2,542 *Azalia africana* seedlings were planted by male host community members for restoration purposes. In Kyangwali, 1,130 seedlings of pine and grevillea have been distributed to two (2) beneficiaries in Nyambogo and Kagoma villages.

In Kyangwali settlement 57 hectares of woodlots in Kyebitaka, Mukarange, Kasonge, Kilokole, Maratatu D and Kavule were maintained using taungya system.



HEALTH

Achievements and Impact

A total of 212,883 consultations were registered in August 2020 of whom, 15% were nationals and 85% refugees, with each clinician seeing on average 48 consultations per day. The major disease burdens were malaria (44.5 percent); Upper Respiratory Tract Infection (8.4 percent); skin diseases (8.6 percent); Lower Respiratory Tract Infection (4.3%); and water diarrhea at (2.1%), among the general population. Among children under five years, malaria was leading at 42%; Upper Respiratory Tract Infection (URTI) at 12.4%; skin diseases at 10.6%; Lower Respiratory Tract Infections (LRTI) at 7.2%; and watery diarrhea at 6.6%.

In August, crude mortality rate stood at 0.1, against the standard of 0.75 deaths per 1000 population per month. Crude proportional mortality was malaria at 19%; LRTI at 11%; chronic diseases at 9.2%; and neonatal death at 4.5%. Under five mortality rates was at 0.15, which is within the public health standards of less than 1.5 deaths per 1000 population per month. Major mortality causes were malaria at 22.5%; LRTI at 22.5%; neonatal death at 12.5%; acute watery diarrhea at 5%; and malnutrition at 5%. The number of children vaccinated against measles were 4,791 and 3,222 received DPT and polio vaccine.

A total of 12,984 refugees were tested for HIV across all settlements of which, 160 were tested positive for HIV and enrolled into care and treatment. The mothers that attended antenatal care clinics were 18,692. Of these, 4,382 attended for the first time and were tested for HIV, in a bid to prevent mother-to-child transmission. The number of people currently receiving HIV treatment in the settlements are 18,242, of which, 35 percent are refugees and 65 percent nationals.

The number of live births registered were 3,414, of which, 95% were conducted at health facilities by skilled health workers. Of the deliveries made, 67 percent were refugees and 33 percent nationals.

Yellow fever vaccination campaign was conducted in Moyo and Bidibidi, following the confirmation of Yellow fever outbreak that was imported from Kajo Keji (South Sudan). The campaign was carried out in Moyo (Parolinya), Yumbe (Bidibidi), Koboko, Imvempi and Rhino camps.

Twenty ambulances were received in the operation for distribution to the different locations to replace the old fleet of ambulances in the operation. The ambulances were received in Bidibidi (3), Adjumani (2), Kiryandongo (2), Palorinya (2), Nakivale (2), Rwamwanja (2), Rhino Camp (2), Palabek (1), Terego (1), Kyaka II (1), Imvempi (1) and Kampala (1).



LIVELIHOOD

Achievements and Impact

A progress update from UGAFODE Microfinance Ltd, one of the financial institutions implementing the pilot Sida/UNHCR/Grameen partnership for financial inclusion of refugees and host communities in Uganda, shows that the Microfinance Institution (MFI) has opened 2,359 savings accounts for refugees in Kampala and Nakivale refugee settlement. The savings accounts have a total of UGX 212,643,811 (about USD 57,000) as deposits and the MFI has disbursed loans worth UGX515,600,000 (about USD 139,000). In March 2020, UGAFODE opened a branch in Nakivale settlement, and by the end of June 2020, loans totaling to UGX 328,500,000 (about USD 88,000) had been disbursed to refugees there. However, their progress has been affected by the COVID-19 situation, and the fact that many refugees can't open bank accounts and borrow due to lack of refugee identification (IDs).

UNHCR held a meeting with the management of Integrated Seed Sector Development (ISSD), a programme that develops the capacity of farmer groups to operate Local Seed Businesses (LSB) that produce, and market quality declared planting seeds (QDS). The purpose of the meeting was to explore potential areas of collaboration with ISSD in West Nile and in Isingiro and Kamwenge districts in the South west, where the programme operates. Using a local seed business training model, the programme has developed 270 active seed producers' through training of trainers that support training of farmer groups in seed production and marketing, as well as registration of trained farmer groups as producers of quality declared seed. UNHCR livelihoods team will be drafting a concept note on how ISSD can collaborate with UNHCR to support inclusion of refugee farmers in the production business and marketing of quality declared seeds in selected settlements in the West Nile and in Nakivale and Rwamwanja in the South west.



WATER AND SANITATION

Achievements and Impact

Water supplied to refugees in the settlements stood at an average of 17.5 litres per person per day (l/p/d) in the month of August 2020. This was achieved by increasing pumping hours for the 177 water schemes and ensuring that 1,125 handpumps remained operational. The sector continued to utilize attendants at water collections points to ensure compliance with social distancing.

Handwashing stations and soap were provided at all communal meeting points, water collection points and health facilities. Hygiene promoters and VHT worked hand in hand to carry-out door-to-door sensitization. Radio, *bodaboda* talks and billboards continued to be used in all settlements for hygiene promotion. Soap distribution stayed at 500g/person/month (before COVID-19 the distribution was 250g/person/month) to support hand hygiene in response to COVID-19. Continuous focus on facilitating refugees to install household handwash facilities (tippy taps) reached over 27,500 new tippy taps at households so far.



COORDINATION

Achievements and Impact

OPM together with UNHCR concluded the mid-year financial analysis of donor contributions towards the Uganda Refugee Response Plan (RRP), based on partner's reports. Forty-eight partners submitted 2020 funding updates including, seven UN agencies, 37 international NGOs, and four national NGOs. Income received against the RRP revised financial requirements for 2020 is USD 256,838,814 (30% of the total requirement of USD 863.3 million). Of the income received, USD 78,167,467 (86%) was towards regular programmes, USD 8,272,740 (9%) for COVID-19 response and regular programmes and USD 4,904,300 (5 %) for COVID-19 response only. Governments provide the most funds to the refugee response amounting to USD 168,807,901 (65.7%). The top 10 donors based on received funding update include: United States of America (USA), European Union ECHO, United Kingdom, Denmark, Germany, Education Cannot Wait (ECW), Korea, Netherlands and Japan. The funding update has been shared with all RRP partners, donors and the government.

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, Isingiro, Kampala, Kamwenge, Kikuube, Kiryandongo, Koboko, Kyegegwa, Lamwo, Obongi, 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).

External Relations

Thank you to donors for providing generous un-earmarked and earmarked contributions to UNHCR Uganda in 2020

EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

United States of America 57.2 million | **Denmark** 11 million | **European Union** 7.1 million | **Norway** 4.4 million | **Germany** 3.2 million | **Republic of Korea** 1.7 million | **Qatar** 1.5 million | **Japan** 1.2 million | **Ireland** 1.1 million | **Remon L Vos** 1.1 million | **Canada** 1.1 million | **Switzerland** 1 million | **United Nations Foundation** 1 million

Education Cannot Wait | CERF | Spotlight Initiative | Netherlands | Finland | France | Fast Retailing Co. Ltd (UNIQLO) | Latter-day Saints Charities | Solvatten | IGAD | Sweden | UN Programme on HIV/AIDS | Other private donors

OTHER SOFTLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Germany 71.1 million | **United States of America** 46.8 million | **United Kingdom** 24.8 million | **Denmark** 14.6 million | **Canada** 10.2 million | **Private donors USA** 7.7 million | **Private donors Australia** 7.4 million | **Private donors Germany** 7.1 million | **Sweden** 6.9 million | **Private donors Japan** 4.4 million | **Spain** 3.4 million | **Ireland** 3.3 million | **Finland** 3.3 million | **France** 2.8 million | **Norway** 2.4 million | **Private donors United Kingdom** 2.2 million

Iceland | Jersey | Liechtenstein | Luxembourg | Morocco | Private donors

UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS

Sweden 76.4 million | **Private donors Spain** 45.9 million | **Norway** 41.4 million | **Netherlands** 36.1 million | **Denmark** 34.6 million | **United Kingdom** 31.7 million | **Germany** 25.9 million | **Private donors Republic of Korea** 23.9 million | **Private donors Japan** 17.9 million | **Switzerland** 16.4 million | **France** 14 million | **Private donors Italy** 10.8 million | **Italy** 10.6 million

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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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