

Uganda

September, 2019

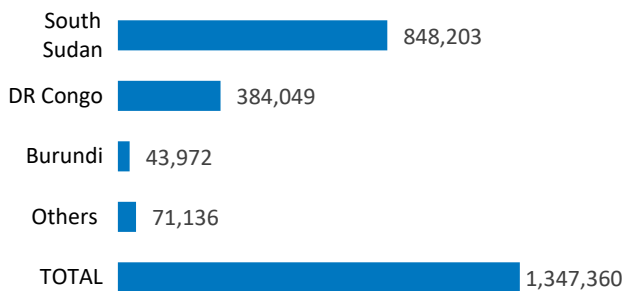
During the month of September 2019, **6,700 new refugee arrivals** from Democratic Republic of Congo (5,044), South Sudan (900) and Burundi (756) sought safety in Uganda, bringing the number of new arrivals since 1 January 2019, to **78,597**. The humanitarian situation remains unpredictable in South 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

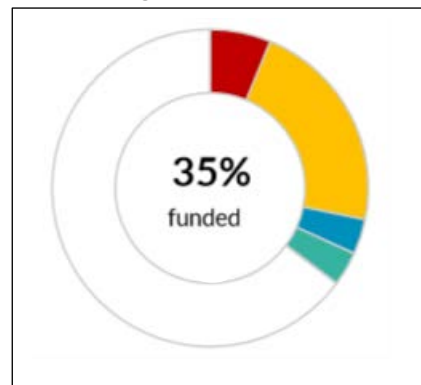
Refugees and Asylum-Seekers by Nationality



UNHCR'S FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS 2019:

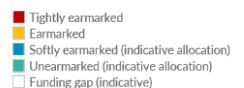
USD 386.2 M

UNHCR Funding (as of 30 September 2019)



Unfunded 65% - **250 M**

Funded 35% - **136 M**



6,700

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

223

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

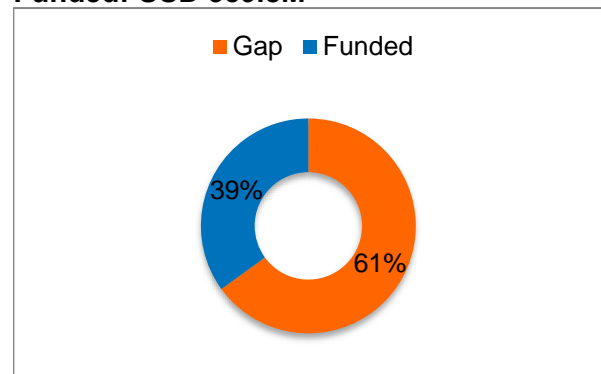
1,347,360

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

2019-2020 UGANDA RRP

Requirements for 2019: USD 927M

Funded: USD 359.8M





Congolese and Burundian refugees, together with Ugandan youth, attend a cooking class at the newly inaugurated Sweswe Vocational Training Centre in Kyaka II refugee settlement, Kyegegwa district. 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).

Operational Highlights

In September, UNHCR facilitated ECHO Protection monitoring mission in Kampala and southwestern Uganda to review the status of ECHO-funded projects and assess protection challenges facing asylum seekers and refugees.

A new Vocation Training Centre (VTC) has been officially inaugurated in Kyaka II refugee settlement, Kyegegwa district, by Ms. Naomi Steer, National Director of Australia for UNHCR and Mr. Jonathan Ball, Australian Deputy High Commissioner to Uganda. The centre is expected to train more than 2,000 refugee and Ugandan youth on income generating skills over the next three years, in line with commitment by UNHCR, to support social and economic inclusion of refugees through education, vocational training, livelihoods promotion and self-reliance initiatives. Australia for UNHCR, one of the several national associations raising funds for UNHCR globally, supported the VTC by investing approximately USD 661,000 in the construction of the centre and implementation of the training programmes. In order to ensure the sustainability of this project and integration with government service delivery, the VTC will be handed-over to district authorities in five years. For more info: <https://www.unhcr.org/afr/news/press/2019/9/5d848df2b/new-vocational-skills-training-centre-helps-empower-refugee-and-ugandan.html>

COMPREHENSIVE REFUGEE RESPONSE FRAMEWORK (CRRF)

The sectoral response plans for refugees and host communities, which have been developed since 2018 under the CRRF, and being led by the respective line ministries. They provide a comprehensive overview of needs and response strategies, to address the gaps from a humanitarian and development perspective. By September 2019, the plans were in different stages of development and implementation:

Education Response Plan (ERP): Review of the first year of the ERP and a financial tracking exercise has been concluded, demonstrating positive results and informing its revision. The ERP targets 567,500 learners per year, over a period of 3 - 5 years. Refugee Gross Enrolment Ratio in Primary education has increased from 58% in 2017 to 72% in 2019. The Refugee Gross Enrolment Ratio in Early Childhood Development has increased from 38% to 50% in the same period. A total of 617 classrooms are being constructed, to increase education system's absorption capacity, and development of thematic operational guidance for implementers. The guidance is on implementation of: inclusive education; double shifting; district coordination; cash-based programming; and fostering increasing harmonization and policy adherence in the response. The next step is to develop District level ERPs, which will be inform the 5-year District Development Plans, to include education for refugees and host communities. Workshops are being undertaken to develop the costing model and District Plans.

The Integrated Health Sector Response Plan was launched in January 2019, targeting 8.3 million people over 5 years. A Steering Committee and a technical Secretariat were set up to facilitate the implementation of the plan. As a next step, the Ministry is planning to hold a workshop with district representatives in order to provide orientation and ensure ownership and harmonization at district level.

The Water and Environment Sector Response Plan (WESRP), under the leadership of Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE), is in its final stages for endorsement by the CRRF Steering Group. The 3-year plan aims at improved utilization of water and environment resources for peaceful co-existence of refugees and host communities and, is costed at USD 915,582,608.

The Jobs and Livelihoods Plan aims at increasing self-reliance for refugees and host communities through six pillars. These are: Peaceful Coexistence for Economic Growth; Sustainable Agriculture; Food Security & Agrobusiness; Enterprise Development and Market Access; Vocational Skilling and Talent Development; and Jobs, Employment and Decent Work. It is costed at USD 185,460,363, over five years.

Sustainable Energy Response Plan: The kick-off meeting for the "Sustainable Energy Response Plan" took place on 6 September 2019, and the plan is envisaged to be available in December 2019. Refugees are to be included in the new Energy policy under development, National Development Plan III and transition to the sector development plan in 2020. Development of the plan is led by Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development (MEMD) and a secretariat will be set up to facilitate the process.



PROTECTION

Statelessness: UNHCR in conjunction with the Ministry of Internal Affairs, organized and facilitated a round table discussion on statelessness from 11 to 13 September 2019 in Entebbe. The purpose of the meeting was: to validate the Uganda National Action Plan on statelessness; develop a road map for the ratification of the 1961 convention on statelessness; promote the use and domestication of the UNHCR Global Action Plan to end statelessness; capacity building and raising awareness; and advocate for the review and alignment of the citizenship law of Uganda with international and regional standards. As a result of the meeting, the National Action plan on statelessness for Uganda was drafted and a road map for the ratification of the 1961 convention was agreed upon. During the meeting, the Government of Uganda reiterated its commitment to accede to the 1961 convention on the reduction of statelessness.

Registration: Roll-out of the SGBV and Child Protection modules in proGres v4 is ongoing with the creation of partner profiles for InterAid Uganda (IAU), Humanitarian Initiative Just Relief Aid (HIJRA), Save The Children and World Vision. So far, 155 partner users have been created. Trainings and on-site support plans are being coordinated for a smooth transition. Further, improvement of proGres user management has been prioritized with the automatic inactivation of government and partner users, based on contract expiry date. Custom profiles for government registration and resettlement for the Uganda Operation are also currently being tested prior to implementation.

During the month, plans for the implementation of the countrywide profiling exercise were put in place. The pilot in Kyangwali resulted in an unusually high rate of Persons with Specific Needs (PSN) identified at 21 percent. So far, the Vulnerability and Essentials Needs Assessment (VENA) has collected data for 4,000 households/24,000 individuals across Uganda. UNHCR is providing data from progress to WFP and REACH in order to complement the assessment findings. UNHCR also supported the design of the targeting criteria for a cash for livelihoods project by UNDP and provided the data.

Based on the findings of the joint review process, new food distribution Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and litigation guidance, were drafted together with WFP and are to be shared with field offices for inputs. Additionally, discussions were started for the drafting of a new tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between UNHCR-WFP-OPM to supersede the temporary Letter of Understanding (LoU) on data sharing signed last year. The MoU will have a broader scope to include assistance and livelihoods.

Refugee status determination: In its role as an observer, UNHCR participated in the Refugee Eligibility Committee (REC) session of 24-27 September 2019 held in Jinja. During this session, the REC adjudicated 1,105 asylum applications (not individuals) largely concerning nationals from Somalia, Eritrea, DRC and Rwanda. About 92 percent (1,024) of the asylum applicants were granted refugee status.

The Inter-Agency Helpline (Feedback, Referral and Resolution Mechanism - FRRM): A total of 2,191 cases were recorded through the FRRM helpline, representing a 5 percent increase from August 2019. Of these, 950 cases were received from females and 1,241 from males, with majority in the age-group of 18 - 50 years. Most of the cases concerned refugees (2,074) while asylum seekers accounted for 106 of the cases and 11 cases from other caller categories (host community). A total of 1,014 cases were handled at helpline level, while 1,177 referrals were made to UNHCR and partners for follow-up. By sector, most of the cases were related to: general queries (400); durable solutions (372); community-based protection (328) and; health and nutrition (281). By location, Nakivale refugee settlement (846) continued to receive the largest number of calls, followed by Kampala (356), Kyanw wali refugee settlement (323) and Kyaka II refugee settlement (208) cases.



EDUCATION

There are 665,185 (49 percent girls, 50.9 percent boys) school-age refugee children (aged 3-17 years) in Uganda. This constitutes 52 percent of the total refugee population (1,331,565). Some 261,095 (46 percent girls and 54 percent boys) are enrolled in 290 settlement primary schools whilst 17,544 (32 percent girls and 68 percent boys) are enrolled in 35 settlement secondary schools.

Over 80,000 children (aged 6-13 years) particularly girls, remain out of school in primary education. In addition, an estimated 124,000 children (aged 14-17 years), at secondary education level, are out of school. Transition to secondary education is a key challenge, with only 12 percent (17,544) children aged 14-17 years, enrolled in secondary education.

The Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES) together with partners, are implementing the Education Response Plan which, is a realistic and implementable plan to ensure improved learning outcomes for the increasing numbers of refugee and host-community children and adolescents across Uganda.

As part of the on-going process of District Level Planning for the Education Response Plan (ERP), UNHCR supported the ERP secretariat to convene an orientation workshop on the district ERP costing model. The aim of the process is to integrate District planning for nationals and refugees as well as integrate the actors of the refugee response in the District-level coordination and collaboration mechanisms. Convened in Hoima and attended by District Education Officers and District Planners in refugee hosting districts, the workshop marked a key milestone in the process of contextualizing the planning in the national ERP to District-specific needs in education. UNHCR and UNICEF also discussed their coordination to operationalise the LoU for better technical support to the Ministry of Education at national and district levels. UNHCR supports the ERP secretariat and is a member of the ERP steering committee co-chaired by the MoES.



HEALTH

A total of 272,865 consultations were provided in all the refugee-serving health facilities in the refugee settlements within Uganda, compared to 284,045 in August 2019. Of the consultations made, 78 percent were refugees and 22 percent host populations. Top morbidity causes were: malaria at 42 percent; Lower Respiratory Tract Infections (LRTI) at 9.2 percent; Upper Respiratory Tract Infections (URTI) at 8 percent; skin diseases at 5.1 percent; watery diarrhea at 4 percent; eye disease at 2 percent; and intestinal worms at 2 percent.

In September 2019, 12,824 patients were admitted in the wards at the health clinics compared to 13,201 in August 2019. Of these, 66 percent were refugees and 34 percent local Ugandans. The main causes for admissions were: malaria at 53 percent; LRTI at 9 percent; watery diarrhea at 4 percent; and 34 percent were due to other causes not categorized.

During the month of September 2019, 4,752 (69 percent refugees and 31 percent nationals) children under 5 years vaccinated against measles. In addition, 5,385 (70 percent refugees and 30 percent nationals) were vaccinated against polio.

A total of 3,702 deliveries were registered in September compared to 3,694 in August 2019. Of these, 70 percent were refugees and 30 percent were nationals.

People tested for HIV were 17,084, of which 60 percent were refugees and 40 percent 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 September stood at 17,841 of which, 35 percent were refugees and 65 percent host population.

In Adjumani district, Lutheran World Federation (LWF) has begun the construction of an Out-Patients Department (OPD) and two blocks of latrines at Pagirinya Health Centre (HC), as well as, an isolation ward at Elema HC II.

In Lamwo district, the International Rescue Committee (IRC), has completed the construction of a guard house and **fencing at the Paluda HC III. IRC's other health construction projects, including OPDs (Akworo, Awich and Paluda HCs)**, as well as a maternity and general ward at Paluda HC, are progressing well, ranging from 65 – 85 percent completion.

The Ebola preparedness construction projects in Kikuube and Kiryandongo districts commenced in early September and despite interruptions from heavy rain, they are progressing on schedule. The works include fencing Ebola Treatment Units and entire Health Centres, constructing placenta and medical waste pits, as well as building new isolation wards, triage sheds and doffing/donning facilities.

Similarly, several Ebola preparedness construction projects began in Kyegegwa, Kamwenge and Kanungu districts. The small-scale projects of fencing, incinerators and placenta pits will be completed by the end of October 2019.



WATER AND SANITATION

Per-capita access to water remains above 16 litres per person per day (l/p/d), with improvements noted in both Kyaka II and Kyangwali refugee settlements, after completion and testing of two new water networks. Distribution of chemicals for water treatment at household level in both settlements is on-going, alongside sensitization on usage, to support families collecting water from unsafe sources. One water scheme was completed in Palorinya refugee settlement, providing additional 100,000 litres per day, whilst six others scheme are at various stages of construction.

The Ministry of Water and Environment (WSDF-N), with funding from EU Trust Fund, completed one water scheme in Nyumanzi refugee settlement, Adjumani district. Management of the water scheme was handed over to Umbrella Authority.

Roll out of dome slab latrine construction continued in several settlements, shifting from the use of plastic slabs for household latrine construction. However, the ongoing rains continue to affect sanitation coverage as latrines fill up and are decommissioned.

Joint Sector Review Workshop was held in September bringing together MoWE, development partners and stakeholders in the Water and Environment Sector. The objective was to review progress on undertakings set in 2018/19 and draft undertakings for 2019/20 planning year. Of importance is the inclusion of an undertaking regarding integration of water supply into Utilities (National Water and Sewerage Corporation and Umbrella Authority), which provides a basis for roll out of the Water Supply Roadmap.

The Water and Environment Refugee Response Plan was adopted by the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) steering group, giving way to finalization and launch.



SHELTER, SETTLEMENTS AND NFIS

During the month of September, there was a decrease in the number of household (HH) plot demarcations (30m x 30m combined shelter and agriculture) for new arrivals to Kyaka II refugee settlement, compared to August 2019. The 1,000 demarcated plots will contribute to easing the strain on transit and reception facilities as refugees from DRC continue to enter Uganda.

In Rhino Camp, the 1-month pilot project of 8.2 km of road rehabilitation by a private contractor, with the use of UNHCR-owned heavy machinery, was successfully completed and commissioned. Considerable savings were noted for this direct implementation modality, compared to previous projects through implementing partners. **Additional benefits included the contractor's flexibility to complete additional works (mitre drains) at no extra cost.**

In Moyo district, Phase I of the construction of Celecelea stadium and extension of the Opiro piped water system were completed. These two Refugee and Host Population Empowerment (ReHoPE) projects await the final joint inspection before handing over to the District authorities for use. The Celecelea stadium will serve as a sports and multi-purpose venue for nationals and refugees, while the Opiro extension will boost the water supply to the District Referral Hospital.

Construction of six small server rooms across registration sites in Kyangwali (3), Kiryandongo (2) and Palorinya (1) refugee settlements was completed. They will provide safe storage of ICT materials for the ongoing biometric registration of refugees and related data collection at these sites. Some of these server rooms will also soon receive roof-mounted solar panel installations, in order to facilitate clean continuous energy for the sites' power demands.

In order to enable refugees to build their own shelters on allocated plots in Nakivale refugee settlement, UNHCR delivered a total of 713 eucalyptus poles to 101 Burundian refugee households.

The semi-permanent shelter pilot project by Peace Winds Japan (PWJ) and LWF continues in Arua, Adjumani and Lamwo districts. All 10 shelters under PWJ have been roofed and two located in Imvepi refugee settlement are already occupied.

Challenges

There are major road rehabilitation needs in the Mid-West Region because some key access roads are currently impassable, hindering the delivery of basic needs and essential services to some refugees. Some areas where new arrivals are being settled also require road access. Funding constraints across the possible stakeholders have prevented any mechanized rehabilitation action to date.

There is encroachment of agricultural crops on crucial road reserves for drainage and this hinders the ability for road maintenance. Community sensitization is needed regarding the necessity to establish and respect adequate road reserves. In addition, there is a need to plant trees alongside the roads that benefit from rehabilitation projects.



ENVIRONMENT AND ACCESS TO ENERGY

The onset of the short rains aided continuation of tree planting activities towards the 2019 targets. High survival of planted seedlings was reported across the operation, ranging from 80-90 percent. However, achievement of the 2019 targets across most operations saw a shift from tree planting to: maintenance of already-established trees; commencement of seedling production for 2020 planting; and capacity building and awareness creation. Interventions like awareness raising and sensitization in the energy sector also continued, with more households gaining access to improved stoves.

More than 3,290 households accessed energy-saving household stoves of various designs, and over 7 tons of briquettes were produced and sold or distributed to households. Cash for work activities continued in Kyangwali refugee settlement, with 252 households engaged in environment activities like, weeding, slashing of woodlots, pot-filling and pricking of e seedlings at the central tree nursery. Forest protection a joint operation with the National Forestry Authority (NFA) also intensified, with 24 forest patrols conducted in Bugoma forest to combat illegal activities.

NFA, through the UNHCR-supported ReForest Project established 100 hectares of bamboo, 80 hectares of indigenous species, and 150 hectares of teak in Central Forest Reserves (CFRs) near Palorinya. Another 100 hectares of bamboo were established in Bugoma forest, while planting of 100 hectares of indigenous species is ongoing. A cumulative figure of 521,236 assorted seedlings were distributed or planted by NFA.

Taking advantage of the ongoing short rains, tree planting continued across the operation including Rwamwanja refugee settlement, as well as Adjumani, Kiryandongo, Yumbe districts. More than 170,000 assorted seedlings consisting of indigenous, exotic and fruit trees were planted on communal, individual and institutional land, for both new planting and gap filling. This translated into over 270 hectares of tree seedlings planted. Seedling production for 2020 planting also started across the operation, with 48,237 reported in Yumbe alone, while two new nurseries are under establishment in Adjumani. Kiryandongo conducted woodlot monitoring and mapping and continued with tree marking.

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, 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)**.

External Relations

Thank you to donors for providing generous un-earmarked and earmarked contributions to UNHCR Uganda in 2019

EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

United States of America 75.8 million | Denmark 9.9 million | European Union 7.5 million | CERF 6 million | Germany 6 million | Republic of Korea 2.5 million | Sweden 2.4 million | Japan 2 million | Spotlight Initiative 1.9 million | Norway 1.5 million | Ireland 1.1 million | Switzerland 1 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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