

UGANDA

Operational highlights

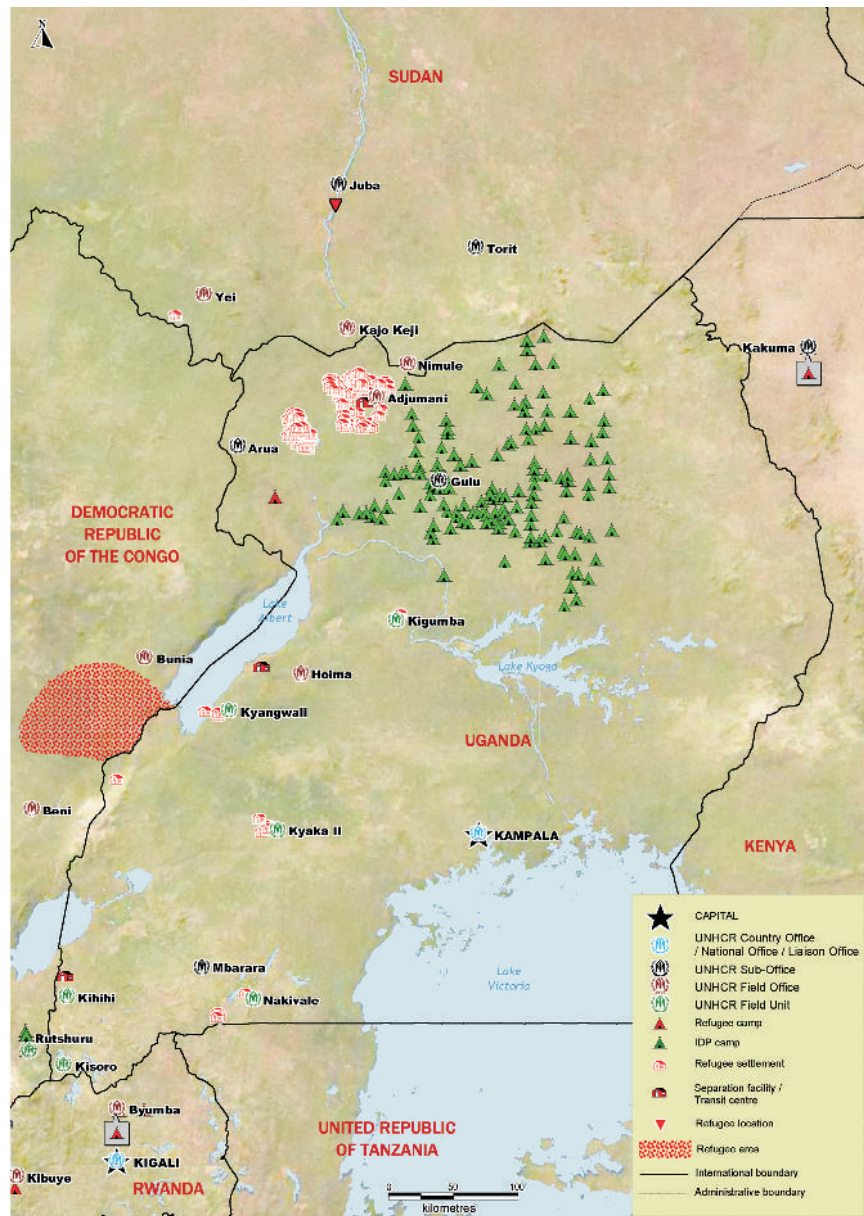
- UNHCR assisted some 153,000 refugees located in 11 settlements, including nearly 16,500 new arrivals from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).
- Some 94,000 Sudanese refugees were repatriated with UNHCR assistance.
- The Post-Repatriation Rehabilitation and Livelihood Programme (PRRLP) was rolled out in former refugee-hosting areas.
- UNHCR played a vital role in the assistance, protection and return to their home areas of some 942,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs).
- The Government, with UNHCR's assistance, provided documentation to some 27,000 urban refugees.

Working environment

Uganda remained relatively stable politically. However, there were no durable solutions available for some 500,000 IDPs still living in transit centres. This was despite the Government's efforts to implement a peace, recovery and development plan by the end of 2009. Since fighting between the DRC military and Lords Resistance Army (LRA) rebels erupted in December 2008, small groups of Congolese refugees from the DRC's Kisoro and Kanungu districts have continued to arrive in Uganda.

Participatory assessments in refugee and IDP settlements, conducted by UNHCR and its partners, identified vulnerable individuals for whom it was difficult to find durable solutions. The assessments also identified the primary needs in the settlements, which were for water, sanitation, education, public health, livelihood activities, protection assistance and the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence. People with specific needs required basic medical care, supplementary support for primary and secondary education and legal assistance to fight cases of sexual and gender-based violence.

In October 2009 Uganda hosted a special African Union (AU) summit of Heads of State and Governments on refugees, returnees and IDPs in Africa. The theme of the summit was the "The African Union addressing the challenge of forced displacement in Africa". The summit adopted the Convention for the Protection and Assistance of IDPs in Africa.



Achievements and impact

Main objectives

Under the annual programme, UNHCR's main objective was to ensure that all people in need of international protection had access to asylum procedures and received protection against *refoulement*. It also aimed for coordinated responses by the camp coordination and camp management and protection clusters, and in the provision of basic services to all people of concern. These services included primary health care, access to primary education, the reduction of malnutrition, the prevention of HIV and AIDS, and malaria control. Other objectives were to implement income generation and agricultural projects to aid self-reliance; pursue durable solutions for all refugees; and launch a multi-year rehabilitation programme in northern Uganda to

repair the environmental damage caused by long-staying refugees.

Under the supplementary programme, UNHCR's primary objective was to protect IDPs and seek durable solutions for them within the framework of the Post-Repatriation Rehabilitation and Livelihoods Programme and District Development Plans and establish efficient linkages with other clusters and sectors.

○ Protection and solutions

Uganda continued to show hospitality to refugees and asylum-seekers. No cases of illegal deportation were reported in 2009. Refugees who were incarcerated received legal support. Most refugees and asylum-seekers enjoyed civil and social rights, and some had access to the labour market. All new arrivals and relocated refugees were registered. In addition to receiving non-food items, refugees were allocated plots of land for agriculture and shelter.

In coordination with the Government and other partners, in 2009 UNHCR conducted a verification exercise covering the remaining refugees in the West Nile district. The Office of the Prime Minister ensured that police posts in the settlements were fully manned to maintain law and order and ensure the physical security of refugees.

The provision of identity documents for both refugees and asylum-seekers remained a challenge. People with specific needs and extremely vulnerable IDPs who opted to stay within the camps were relocated to accommodation which met their needs. They were also given legal counselling. UNHCR pursued the voluntary repatriation of Sudanese refugees and some Kenyans and Rwandans. Congolese asylum-seekers from the eastern provinces of the

DRC continued to be granted refugee status on a *prima facie* basis under the 1969 AU Convention.

○ Activities and assistance

Community services: Despite reductions in Moyo and Adjumani, sexual and gender-based violence remained a serious concern. In the southwest there was an increase in the number of reported cases, which could be attributed to campaigns to make people of concern more aware of sexual and gender-based violence, and to better reporting and response mechanisms.

Crop production: Refugees received 357 kgs of beans, 132 kgs of seeds and 227 kgs of groundnut seeds. Fifty Farmer Field School (FFS) groups were formed to train members in tractor use and management in Adjumani, Moyo, Yumbe, Nyadri and Arua. Some 200 FFS group members were also trained in quality seed production.

Domestic needs: UNHCR and its partners constructed some 1,500 improved cooking stoves in refugee settlements to reduce reliance on more basic cooking facilities. Some 1,880 urban refugees received regular counselling, monthly subsistence allowances and accommodation.

Education: In refugee settlements, all refugee children attended primary school. However, there was a significant drop in enrolment due to the ongoing Sudanese repatriation. In Moyo and Adjumani, girls' enrolment stood at 53 per cent. The dropout rate is currently 33 per cent, due mainly to repatriation, marriage or illness. In settlements of Congolese refugees the provision of educational materials and administrative support was improved. Sixteen schools were

Persons of concern					
Type of population	Origin	Total	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Per cent female	Per cent under 18
Refugees	DRC	73,200	73,200	50	56
	Sudan	20,800	20,800	51	58
	Rwanda	15,700	15,700	50	58
	Somalia	8,200	8,200	46	36
	Burundi	3,800	3,800	49	57
	Eritrea	3,000	3,000	43	26
	Kenya	1,700	1,700	50	54
	Ethiopia	900	900	38	18
	Various	50	50	47	40
Asylum-seekers	Somalia	3,500	3,500	45	34
	DRC	3,000	3,000	47	48
	Eritrea	1,600	1,600	37	16
	Rwanda	1,200	1,200	48	45
	Burundi	900	900	43	47
	Ethiopia	800	800	35	7
	Sudan	320	320	29	37
	Kenya	230	230	45	47
	Various	60	60	28	23
IDPs*	Uganda	446,300	446,300	-	-
Returned ex-IDPs including returned IDP-like	Uganda	407,700	-	-	-
Returnees (refugees)	Various	90	90	51	-
Total		993,050	585,350		

* The IDP figure at the end of 2009 represents the remaining IDP population in camps and transit sites. They remain of concern to UNHCR together with those 407,700 who have already returned to their villages in 2009.

rehabilitated or constructed in IDP settlements, and seven primary schools in Amuria, Katakwi and Pader districts were provided with desks.

Forestry: The 2008 environment baseline survey showed low environmental awareness among both refugees and nationals. Most communities do not equate sustainable natural resource management with better livelihoods, and follow practices that lead to environmental degradation. To counter this trend, these communities were trained in energy conservation and better forestry and farming techniques, while income generating projects also sought to improve environmental conditions. Communities in the southwest were provided with support to run nurseries, and sensitization campaigns emphasized the conservation of lake shores and wetlands as well as tree planting.

Health: All refugees and nationals in hosting communities had access to primary health care. In Arua, the global acute malnutrition rate was reduced from 5 per cent in 2008 to 4.8 per cent in 2009, while the severe acute malnutrition rate fell from 2 per cent to 1.8 per cent over the same period.

Legal assistance: UNHCR provided timely legal assistance to refugees and IDPs. Authorities were trained to better protect refugees. Refugees were sensitized on their basic rights and obligations.

Income generation: Communities were sensitized on empowerment of women and trained on income generating activities as well as micro-finance program to improve livelihoods.

Operational support (to agencies): UNHCR supported the operational costs of partners and maintenance of their vehicles. The Office transported more than 30,000 Sudanese returnees with their belongings from Arua and surrounding settlements. Monthly supervision, coordination and monitoring programme activities were conducted.

Sanitation: Latrine and sanitation facilities were improved in all settlements. Awareness raising among health management committees and frequent meetings with refugee leaders to discuss the issue, improved general sanitation in the settlements. No environment-related epidemics were reported in the settlements.

Shelter and other infrastructure: Upon the departure of Sudanese refugees, camp closure activities included demolishing thousands of bath shelters, latrines, rubbish pits and abandoned huts. Eight tool banks were established for IDPs, who were provided with training in how to use them.



A young boy attends Siripi Primary School in Rhino camp refugee settlement in Arua.

UNHCR / V. VICK

Forty new water sites were constructed, and water committee members were trained to manage them.

Transport and logistics: UNHCR assisted repatriating Rwandan and Sudanese refugees as well as IDPs relocating within the country.

Water: Twenty litres of water per person per day was made available in all Sudanese settlements. The number of people per useable borehole averaged 395. Twelve shallow wells and seven boreholes were dug in Nakivale, and the water supply rose from 7.2 litres to 14 litres per person per day in Nakivale and Oruchinga. Ten villages were provided with clean water harvesting systems.

○ Constraints

Efforts to achieve a peace agreement between the LRA and the Government have not been successful. The continued stalemate hinders attempts to find solutions for IDPs in northern Uganda. Lack of progress in implementing the

Refugee Act made it difficult for refugees to enjoy their rights fully, while the absence of comprehensive local integration policies exacerbated the protracted overall refugee situation in Uganda.

Financial information

The total annual and supplementary budget for Uganda increased significantly, from USD 14.5 million in 2004 to almost USD 38 million in 2009. This upward trend is a result of UNHCR's involvement with IDPs, the massive repatriation of Sudanese refugees and efforts to address the needs of newly arrived refugees from the DRC.

Organization and implementation

UNHCR operations in Uganda were coordinated by the country office in Kampala and three sub-offices in Arua, Gulu and Hoima. Six field offices and three field units monitored refugee and IDP operations. UNHCR operation was run by 174 persons, including 24 international and 117 national staff, four JPOs and 29 UNVs.

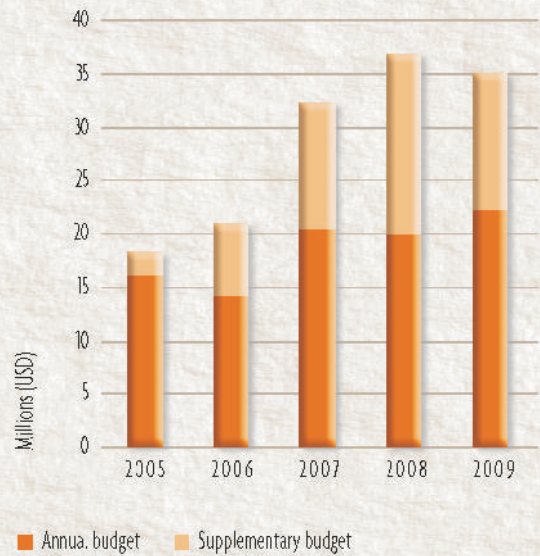
Working with others

UNHCR participated in the UN Country Team and worked closely with all UN agencies and other partners. The Office contributed to the Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP) and was an active member of the UNDAF process. In addition, UNHCR led the protection cluster working group and co-chaired the camp coordination and camp management cluster for IDPs with IOM as well as the emergency shelter cluster with the IFRC.

Overall assessment

UNHCR met most of its operational objectives with the resources available by developing effective partnerships with the Government and other humanitarian actors. Nonetheless, many challenges remained, especially in attaining minimum standards in the areas of health, food security, water and sanitation in the refugee camps.

**Expenditure in Uganda
2005 - 2009**



Partners

Implementing partners

Government: Office of the Prime Minister, District Director of Health Services (Arua, Yumbe), District Education Officers (Arua, Moyo, Adjumani, Masindi), Directorate of Community Services (Arua), Ministry of Works and Transport, Uganda AIDS Commission

NGOs: Africa Humanitarian Action, *Aktion Afrika Hilfe*, African Development and Emergency Organization, African Initiative for Relief and Development, American Refugee Committee, *Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund*, Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development, Association of Volunteers in International Service, Danish Refugee Council, German Development Services, GOAL (Ireland), InterAid Uganda, International Rescue Committee, Jesuit Refugee Service, Norwegian Refugee Council, Windle Trust Uganda, BRAC Uganda, CESVI, Nsamizi Training Institute for Social Development, Right to Play, Samaritan's Purse, Youth AIDS Services Association

Others: *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit*, FAO, OCHA, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHABITAT, UNICEF, WFP and WHO

Operational partners

Government: Office of the Prime Minister

NGOs: *Action Contre la Faim*, Directorate of Community Development, Finnish Refugee Council, German Development Services, Right to Play, International Rescue Committee, Madi AIDS Control Initiative, *Médecins sans Frontières*, National Lake Rescue Institute, Save the Children, Youth AIDS Service

Others: Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development of the Federal Republic of Germany (BMZ), OCHA, Uganda Red Cross Society, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNICEF, UNHCHR, UNV Programme and WFP

Budget, income and expenditure in Uganda (USD)

	Final budget	Income from contributions	Other funds available	Total funds available	Total expenditure
Annual budget	24,113,129	12,868,243	10,168,508	23,036,751	21,782,698
IDP operations in Uganda SB	10,179,658	8,049,633	1,896,212	9,945,845	9,513,508
Return and reintegration of Sudanese refugees SB	3,453,375	0	2,574,026	2,574,026	2,574,026
Post repatriation programme in Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda SB	3,271,028	0	624,896	624,896	624,896
Avian and human influenza preparedness SB	80,620	21,595	59,025	80,620	80,620
Supplementary budget subtotal	16,984,681	8,071,228	5,154,159	13,225,386	12,793,049
Total	41,097,810	20,939,471	15,322,667	36,262,137	34,575,747

Note: Supplementary programmes do not include seven per cent support costs that are recovered from contributions to meet indirect costs for UNHCR. Income from contributions includes contributions earmarked at the country level. Other funds available include transfers from unearmarked and broadly earmarked contributions, opening balance and adjustments.

Financial report for UNHCR's operations in Uganda (USD)

Expenditure breakdown	Current years' project			Previous years' project
	Annual budget	Supplementary budgets	Total	Annual and supplementary budgets
Protection, monitoring and coordination	3,935,484	2,157,723	6,093,207	0
Community services	698,032	281,630	979,662	359,988
Crop production	2,223	211,563	213,786	0
Domestic needs and household support	553,910	3,760	557,671	94,842
Education	1,014,407	0	1,014,407	(92,454)
Forestry	387,666	0	387,666	110,639
Health and nutrition	2,841,663	118,508	2,960,171	733,685
Income generation	24,786	24,652	49,438	0
Legal assistance	1,683,323	3,237,434	4,920,756	1,282,667
Operational support (to agencies)	1,664,413	1,685,031	3,349,443	537,257
Sanitation	168,602	6,515	175,116	16,562
Shelter and infrastructure	730,661	842,817	1,573,479	1,071,716
Transport and logistics	2,701,339	2,357,513	5,058,852	(300,738)
Water	652,401	54,008	706,408	(3,591)
Instalments to implementing partners	1,922,452	1,398,888	3,321,340	(3,810,572)
Subtotal operational activities	18,981,362	12,380,040	31,361,403	0
Programme support	2,801,336	413,008	3,214,344	0
Total expenditure	21,782,698	12,793,049	34,575,747	0

Cancellation on previous years' expenditure

(61,964)

Instalments with implementing partners

Payments made	11,215,098	7,642,971	18,858,068
Reporting received	(9,292,645)	(6,244,083)	(15,536,728)
Balance	1,922,452	1,398,888	3,321,340

Previous year's report

Instalments with implementing partners:			
Outstanding 1st January			4,567,730
Reporting received			(3,810,572)
Refunded to UNHCR			(627,753)
Currency adjustment			65,901
Outstanding 31st December			195,306