

UGANDA

Working environment

The context

Uganda's relative political and economic stability draws refugees and asylum-seekers, mainly from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Rwanda and Sudan. However, insecurity in some parts of the country and upcoming political developments, including elections and referendums in neighbouring countries, are expected to present new challenges to UNHCR's Uganda operation.

UNHCR anticipates that new inflows could bring the number of refugees and asylum-seekers in the country to some 150,000 in 2011, even with potential voluntary repatriation movements and third-country resettlement. The number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in need of UNHCR assistance, however, will decline as many continue to return to their places of origin, leading to a scaling down of assistance. Less than 10 per cent of the IDP camps in Uganda remain open, and some 250,000 IDPs remain in them or in transit centres.

The needs

Maintaining an adequate supply of water for UNHCR's people of concern continues to be problematic, as does ensuring their access to basic health care. Education beyond primary school is not available to refugees, who also lack legal remedies in cases of sexual and gender-based violence.



Planning figures for Uganda

TYPE OF POPULATION	ORIGIN	JAN 2011		DEC 2011	
		TOTAL IN COUNTRY	OF WHOM ASSISTED BY UNHCR	TOTAL IN COUNTRY	OF WHOM ASSISTED BY UNHCR
Refugees	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	80,000	80,000	80,000	80,000
	Sudan	16,500	16,500	11,900	11,900
	Rwanda	16,300	16,300	11,700	11,700
	Various	28,800	28,800	31,000	31,000
Asylum-seekers	Somalia	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
	Eritrea	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
	Various	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
IDPs	Uganda	1,300,000	1,300,000	1,300,000	1,300,000
Others of concern	Uganda	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Total		1,503,600	1,503,600	1,496,600	1,496,600

A primary school in Mulanda transit center holds classes for refugee children from Kenya.



Supplies of food have not been sufficient and cause security concerns, and there is a strong need to increase livelihood opportunities and agricultural production in order to complement food assistance and increase refugees' self-sufficiency.

Refugees in Uganda receive non-food items (NFIs) upon their arrival in the country, but no follow-up distributions take place other than soap and sanitary materials. This has been a cause for protests by refugees in Nakivale and Kyaka in 2010.

While most IDPs have now returned to their places of origin, protection risks, including the threat of forced eviction and sexual and gender-based violence, remain. Access to basic social services, safe drinking water, health care and secondary education remains precarious. Food insecurity and poverty in return areas hamper efforts to facilitate return. Protecting and assisting persons with specific needs who do not have resources to return to their villages of origin is another pressing need.

Strategy and activities in 2011

UNHCR will continue to provide protection and seek durable solutions for refugees, including voluntary repatriation, local integration and resettlement, as appropriate. For refugees remaining in Uganda, priority will be given to improving education, sanitation, water supply, health services and accommodation, in order to meet UNHCR standards. The Office will also focus on livelihoods support to improve the overall living conditions in settlements as well as urban settings.

Main objectives and targets

Fair protection processes

- Ensure the protection of refugees and asylum-seekers by providing them with access to asylum; protecting them from forced return, abuse and sexual and gender-based violence; preserving the civilian character of refugee settlements; and safeguarding the human rights of the populations of concern.
 - ↪ Registration is undertaken in line with UNHCR standards for 75,000 refugees and asylum-seekers.
 - ↪ The refugee population receives identity cards, birth certificates and machine-readable convention travel documents where required.
 - ↪ Protection monitoring is undertaken in IDP camps, former camps and return areas (including transit sites) for 250,000 IDPs.
 - ↪ Urban refugees' access to protection is improved.
- Provide support in establishing Government protection structures.
 - ↪ Refugee status determination (RSD) is completed for 30,000 asylum-seekers.
 - ↪ All relevant officials are familiar with the contents of the 2006 Refugee Act.
- Respond to the continuous influx of asylum-seekers and support Government authorities in ensuring that RSD takes place in a timely manner.
 - ↪ New arrivals including some 75,000 Sudanese, Congolese and Somali refugees are assisted

Basic needs and services

- Ensure that the basic needs of all persons of concern are met.
 - ↪ A total of some 210,000 refugees and asylum-seekers receive basic services, including adequate water, health care, education, shelter and community-services support.

Durable solutions

- Promote durable solutions for persons of concern, including voluntary repatriation and resettlement and improve prospects for integration.
 - ↪ Some 21,500 Sudanese, Congolese, Rwandan and Kenyan refugees are repatriated, and over 4,000 refugees are resettled.
 - ↪ Progress monitoring of local integration is undertaken for IDPs.

Systematic consolidation and analysis of information as well as rigorous monitoring of implementation will be undertaken to measure the progress of all programmes. This will be accompanied by measures to strengthen a comprehensive and integrated approach, addressing cross-cutting issues and policy priorities.

PARTNERS

Implementing partners

Government agencies:

Adjumani District Local Government
 Arua District Local Government
 Kyegegwa District Local Government
 Masindi District Local Government
 Moyo District Local Government
 Nsamizi Training Institute
 Office of the Prime Minister
 Uganda Virus Research Institute
 Yumbe District Local Government

NGOs:

Action Africa Help International
 Africa Humanitarian Action
 Africa Initiative for Relief and Development
 Arbeiter Samariter Bund
 BRAC Uganda
 CARITAS Uganda
 Danish Refugee Council
 German Development Services
 German Technical Cooperation
 InterAid Uganda
 International Service Volunteer Association
 Norwegian Refugee Council
 Uganda Human Rights Commission
 Windle Trust Uganda

Others:

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit

Operational partners

Government agencies:

Office of the Prime Minister
 Uganda AIDS Commission
 Uganda Human Rights Commission

NGOs:

Danish Refugee Council
 Finnish Refugee Council
 German Development Services
 Norwegian Refugee Council
 Medical Teams International

Others:

Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development of the Federal Republic of Germany (BMZ)
 FAO
 IOM
 OCHA
 OHCHR
 UNAIDS
 UNDP
 UNFPA
 UNICEF
 UNV
 WFP
 WHO

A comprehensive solutions strategy will be applied to urban refugees to increase their access to protection and self-reliance and ultimately allow for a scaling down of assistance. The Office will also implement the Post-Repatriation Rehabilitation and Livelihood Programme for the Sudanese refugees who remain in Uganda and their host communities. After a presence of more than two decades, the scheme will integrate services into the local government systems, in order to bridge the gap between recovery and development.

The 2011 IDP programme will focus on protection and advocacy for durable solutions, local capacity building and sensitization, and mobile legal assistance clinics. It will also monitor the remaining IDP camps.

Assistance to some 1,500 persons with specific needs will also be a priority. It will include shelter and latrine construction, livelihood assistance, and basic integration assistance in return areas. The focus will be on impoverished communities living in large transit sites, with populations of more than 1,000 individuals. The IDP programme will also aim to strengthen national human rights protection. Partners in the protection cluster will build the capacity of the Uganda Human Rights Commission to independently coordinate protection at national as well as at district levels.

○ Constraints

The lack of social services and infrastructure in IDP return areas, along with persisting insecurity, will continue to

hamper returns. Stricter Government security measures following the bombing incident in Kampala in July 2010 may have a negative impact on the asylum process. Meeting the needs of the increasing number of urban refugees continues to be a challenge. Insufficient resources for logistical support and staff security may have a negative impact respectively on the delivery of service and staff safety.

Organization and implementation

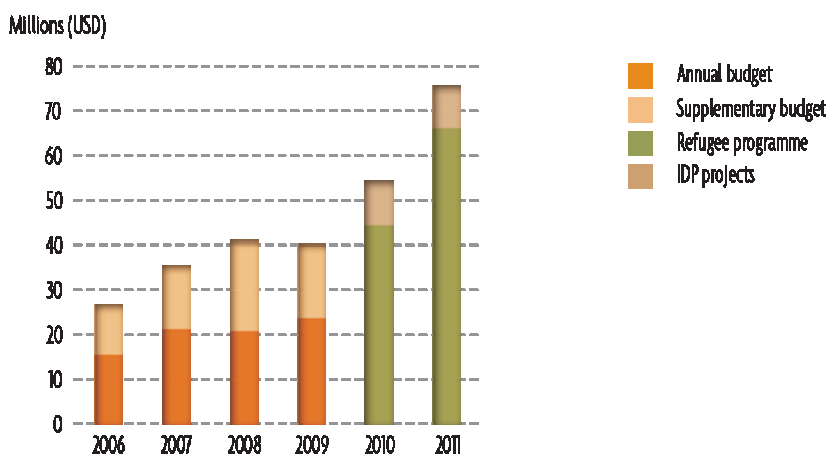
○ Coordination

All activities will continue to be implemented in coordination with the Government of Uganda, district and local authorities, the UN Country Team and other stakeholders. The Government, through the Office of the Prime Minister, will continue to negotiate with local communities to provide land to host refugees, and to maintain law and order in the settlements.

Financial information

UNHCR's budgets in Uganda for refugees and IDPs rose steadily from 2006 to 2008. In 2009, the budget decreased, mainly due to the decline in the number of Sudanese refugees and IDPs, as a result of voluntary returns. In 2010, the budget increased to USD 54.5 million, with the introduction of the comprehensive needs assessment and the Congolese influx to Uganda. In 2011, the budget will be increased to USD 75.6 million.

UNHCR's budget in Uganda 2006 – 2011



2011 UNHCR Budget for Uganda (USD)

RIGHTS GROUPS AND OBJECTIVES	REFUGEE PROGRAMME PILLAR 1	IDP PROJECTS PILLAR 4	TOTAL
Favourable protection environment			
Environmental protection	1,662,080	0	1,662,080
Emergency management	153,094	0	153,094
Subtotal	1,815,174	0	1,815,174
Fair protection processes and documentation			
Reception conditions	4,779,257	0	4,779,257
Registration and profiling	2,134,976	0	2,134,976
Access to asylum procedures	344,769	0	344,769
Fair and efficient status determination	327,177	0	327,177
Family reunification	253,819	0	253,819
Civil status documentation	90,007	0	90,007
Subtotal	7,930,004	0	7,930,004
Security from violence and exploitation			
Impact on host communities	1,082,407	0	1,082,407
Law enforcement	1,828,504	0	1,828,504
Community security management system	82,572	0	82,572
Gender-based violence	598,493	0	598,493
Protection of children	514,785	0	514,785
Freedom of movement	53,694	0	53,694
Access to legal remedies	99,492	0	99,492
Subtotal	4,259,947	0	4,259,947
Basic needs and essential services			
Food security	237,525	0	237,525
Nutrition	1,079,134	0	1,079,134
Water	2,655,508	630,221	3,285,729
Shelter and other infrastructure	2,314,125	612,789	2,926,914
Basic domestic and hygiene items	2,005,945	0	2,005,945
Primary health care	5,034,570	0	5,034,570
HIV and AIDS	1,025,406	0	1,025,406
Education	3,580,302	0	3,580,302
Sanitation services	1,956,607	0	1,956,607
Services for groups with specific needs	686,277	1,606,072	2,292,349
Subtotal	20,575,399	2,849,082	23,424,481
Community participation and self-management			
Participatory assessment and community mobilization	659,367	0	659,367
Community self-management and equal representation	1,898,235	0	1,898,235
Self-reliance and livelihoods	3,782,848	2,173,856	5,956,703
Subtotal	6,340,449	2,173,856	8,514,305
Durable solutions			
Durable solutions strategy	138,407	0	138,407
Voluntary return	3,677,683	1,788,656	5,466,339
Resettlement	1,770,031	0	1,770,031
Local integration support	0	507,447	507,447
Subtotal	5,586,121	2,296,103	7,882,224
External relations			
Resource mobilization	93,585	0	93,585
Public information	73,585	0	73,585
Subtotal	167,169	0	167,169
Logistics and operations support			
Supply chain and logistics	11,184,892	1,446,992	12,631,884
Programme management, coordination and support	8,216,688	776,641	8,993,329
Subtotal	19,401,581	2,223,633	21,625,213
Total	66,075,845	9,542,673	75,618,518
2010 Revised budget	44,834,757	9,702,896	54,537,653

UNHCR's presence in 2011

□ Number of offices	10
□ Total staff	224
International	27
National	162
JPOs	2
UNVs	23
Others	10

Consequences of a 20 – 40 per cent funding shortfall

- Some 4,000 refugees will not be resettled.
- About 20 per cent of the refugees will remain without documentation.
- A reduction in the number of community-based projects will increase the risk of sexual and gender-based violence, and have a negative impact on relations between refugees and local communities.
- The global acute malnutrition rate in the camps will remain as high as 8 per cent.
- Some 40 per cent of children of concern will not have access to primary education.
- Approximately 30,000 new arrivals will not benefit from shelter assistance or follow-up distribution of NFIs.
- There will continue to be a gap in the provision of hygiene materials, basic household items as well as agricultural tools for an estimated 50 per cent of the refugee population, affecting basic living standards, health and general self-sustenance.
- Refugees will only have access to 15 litres of potable water per person per day.
- Some 50 per cent of vulnerable refugees in urban settings will not have access to livelihood support.
- An integrated multi-sectoral approach to environment protection in refugee settlements will not be adopted, with a negative impact on the environment in refugee settlements and surrounding areas.
- Some 40 per cent of persons with specific needs among the IDP population will not be able to access livelihood assistance and shelter support.