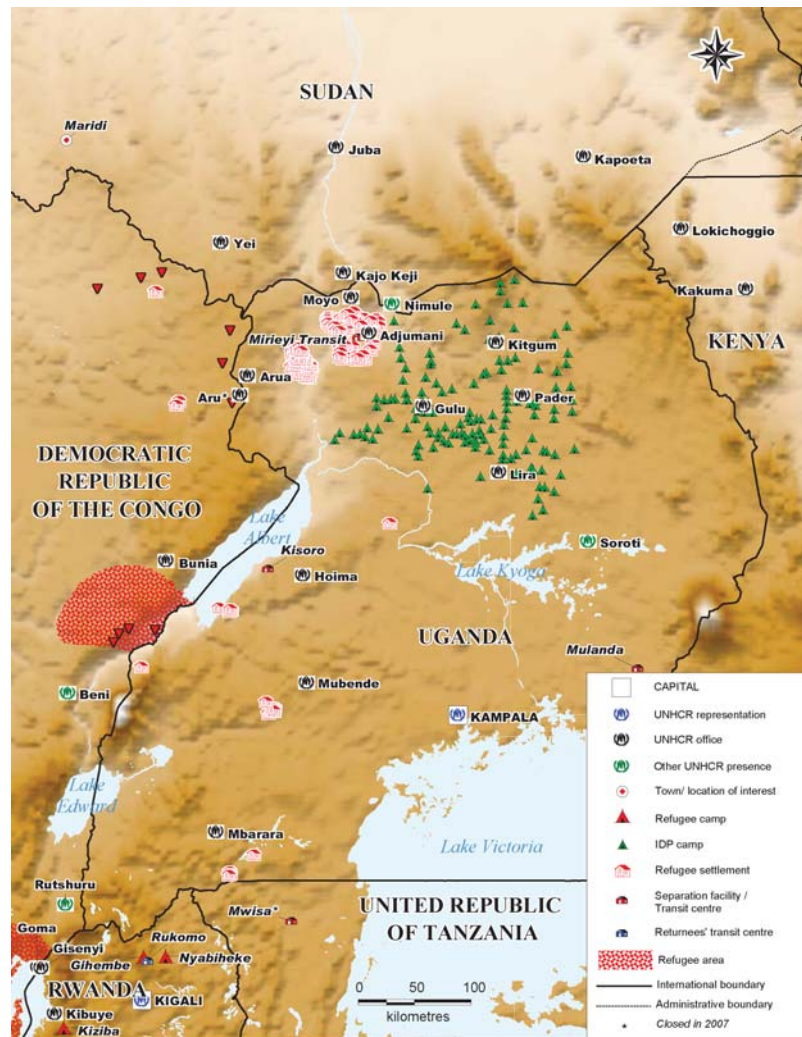


# Uganda

## Operational highlights

- Uganda hosted nearly 230,000 refugees, mainly from Southern Sudan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Rwanda. Other nationalities included Burundians, Ethiopians, Eritreans, Kenyans and Somalis.
- More than 55,000 refugees have repatriated to Sudan with UNHCR's assistance since the beginning of the voluntary repatriation programme in May 2006.
- At the end of 2007, some 579,000 IDPs have finally returned to their homes or places of choice, while some 300,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) have started the return movement and are in transit areas.



## Working environment

In 2007, the country enjoyed political stability following the 2006 elections. The economic outlook improved with the discovery of oil reserves.

Severe flooding in eastern Uganda in August led to outbreaks of cholera, meningitis, Ebola and Marburg fevers.

The Juba Peace Talks between the Government and the Lord's Resistance Army continued, and there is hope that

## Persons of concern

Type of population	Origin	Total	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Per cent female	Per cent under 18
Refugees	Sudan	162,100	157,100	50	54
	DRC	41,800	41,800	50	56
	Rwanda	17,800	17,800	50	58
	Somalia	4,600	4,600	46	41
	Burundi	2,200	2,200	49	58
	Various	470	470	-	-
Asylum-seekers	Rwanda	3,100	-	-	-
	Somalia	1,100	-	-	-
	Burundi	900	-	-	-
	Eritrea	430	-	-	-
	Ethiopia	280	-	-	-
	Various	70	-	-	-
IDPs		1,236,000 <sup>1</sup>	1,236,000	-	-
Returnees (IDPs)		579,000	579,000	-	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>2,049,850</b>	<b>2,038,970</b>		

<sup>1</sup> This figure (1,236,000 IDPs) represents the remaining IDP population in IDP camps and in transit sites. They remain of concern to UNHCR together with those 579,000 who have already returned to their villages.

a peace agreement will be signed in 2008. Together with improved security and economic conditions, this very positive development encouraged the departure of around 900,000 individuals from IDP camps.

## Achievements and impact

### Main objectives

UNHCR's main objectives were to protect refugees and asylum-seekers; ensure respect for their civil, social and economic rights; and pursue all feasible opportunities to find durable solutions for them. The Office also sought to promote, where appropriate, the voluntary, safe and dignified repatriation of refugees; ensure that the new Refugee Act is implemented; and help institutionalize government protection and management structures. Furthermore, UNHCR aimed to protect some 1.8 million IDPs (including IDP returnees) by promoting freedom of movement, facilitating voluntary returns and improving protection and assistance for those of them that remained in camps and settlements.

### Protection and solutions

UNHCR advised the Government on the Refugee Act, but a lack of State resources hindered its satisfactory implementation. In urban areas, all asylum-seekers were individually registered using the *proGres* database, and received information on refugee status determination (RSD) procedures. Information campaigns and registration for the voluntary repatriation to Southern Sudan were conducted in all settlements to ensure the voluntary nature of return.

UNHCR's advocacy of greater freedom of movement for IDPs was accepted by all stakeholders and resulted in the return of some 800,000 IDPs to places of origin or choice. Returnees mentioned inadequate services and infrastructure in areas of return as their main concerns. The implementation of the cluster approach in the two sectors led by UNHCR, protection and camp coordination and camp management, improved coordination and led to better identification of protection and assistance gaps.

### Activities and assistance

**Community services:** UNHCR helped more than 10,000 people with specific needs in refugee hosting settlements by distributing clothes, bedding and mosquito nets. In 2007, UNHCR provided sanitary supplies to all women of reproductive age.

**Crop production:** As a result of improved agricultural methods and techniques in refugee settlements and host communities, the crop yield increased by 50 per cent.

**Domestic needs and household support:** Non-food items such as soap, kitchen utensils, agricultural tools, firewood and wooden poles for the construction of shelters were given to some 5,000 new arrivals from the DRC. Emergency shelter assistance was also provided to IDPs with specific needs.

**Education:** There were more than 35,000 refugee pupils and more than 27,000 national pupils in primary schools supported by UNHCR. The Office provided textbooks and scholastic materials, and helped some 800 people, most of them Sudanese, learn vocational or teaching skills.

**Food:** Some 170,000 refugees received different types of food rations during the year. The size of food rations were reduced in Ikafe, Moyo and Adjumani.

**Forestry:** UNHCR assisted in improving management of natural resources in and around refugee settlements. In addition, some 600 seedlings were planted in settlements and surrounding communities.

**Health and nutrition:** Public health services were provided in all refugee settlements, where immunization coverage remained at over 95 per cent. However, there were outbreaks of cholera, meningitis and Ebola during the reporting period. In partnership with Uganda's Ministry of Health and implementing partners, UNHCR helped to establish an effective system for disease control, prevention and monitoring. Global Acute Malnutrition and Severe Acute Malnutrition indicators showed an improvement from an average 6.4 and 2.4 in 2006 to 5.73 and 1.33 in 2007, respectively.

**Legal assistance:** Standard operating procedures for cases of sexual and gender-based violence were adopted by all operational and implementing partners.

**Operational support (to agencies):** UNHCR covered various components of the operational, management and staffing costs for the implementing partners. Technical support and training was provided to implementing and operational partners on key policy and operational matters.

**Sanitation:** Overall availability of sanitation facilities improved in refugee camps, although some facilities were damaged by severe rains. Significant improvement was made to sanitary conditions at schools.

**Shelter and other infrastructure:** The Office maintained roads to refugee settlements and opened new roads where necessary, particularly to Nakivale and Kyaka II



A Congolese refugee registers to move from the transit center in Nyakabanda, Kisoro, south-west Uganda, to the Navikale refugee settlement, located 300 km from the border. Refugees find shelter and more security but conditions are basic and there are no schools.

settlements. Following the repatriation of Sudanese refugees, the Government and UNHCR began mapping the refugee facilities in need of rehabilitation.

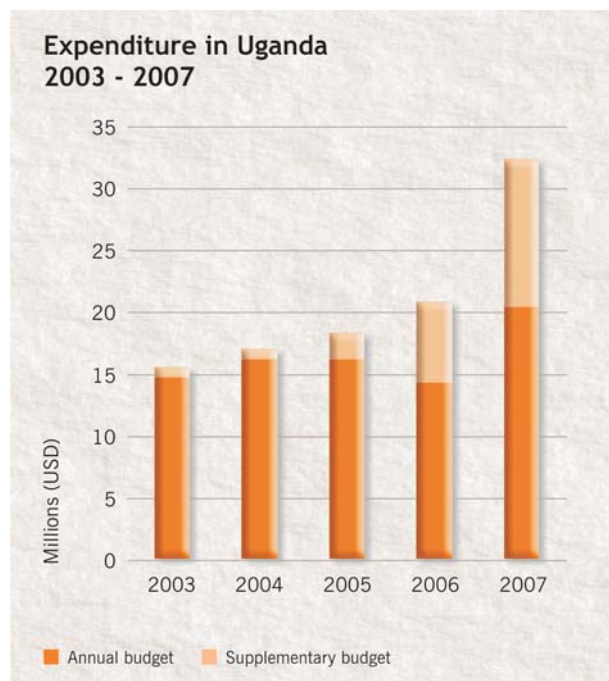
**Transport and logistics:** UNHCR transported more than 32,000 Sudanese refugees repatriating to Southern Sudan. Some 5,000 new arrivals from the DRC were transported from Nyakabanda transit centre in Kisoro to Nakivale settlement. Non-food items for 15,000 people were transported from the regional stock in Ngara, Tanzania and distributed to new arrivals.

**Water supply:** An average of 15 litres of water per day was provided to all refugees. New boreholes were drilled in the West Nile and Nakivale areas. The ratio of the number of people per water source improved to 333 in Rhino camp, where previously it had been 554; to 687 in Imvepi (previously 963), and 555 in Madi Okollo (previously 1,389). Significant improvements were made in Nakivale, where the quantity of water available per person per day increased from 4.6 liters at the end of 2006 to 11.6 liters at end of 2007.

## Constraints

Limited absorption capacity in Southern Sudan hampered the voluntary repatriation from Uganda. Furthermore, the implementation of the Refugee Act was slower than expected due to the limited capacity

and resources of the authorities. However, specialized institutions such as the Refugee Law Project have taken the initiative to raise public awareness and launch civic education programmes. Although progress has been made in the peace talks between the Government and the Lord's Resistance Army, people in northern Uganda and the international community are eagerly awaiting a final, signed accord.



## Financial information

While the funding was adequate to maintain minimum standards in camps, additional resources would have allowed UNHCR to increase community development activities, which are vital for the return of Sudanese refugees. The supplementary programme for IDPs received strong donor support and was fully funded.

UNHCR's total expenditure in annual and supplementary programmes in Uganda has doubled from USD 15 million in 2003 to over USD 30 millions in 2007. The annual programme grew last year due to the increase in additional malaria and HIV and AIDS activities, bridge construction for repatriation and the emergency response to the influx of 10,000 new refugees from the DRC. The important increase of the supplementary programme budget from USD 0.7 million in 2003 to nearly USD 12 million in 2007 reflects UNHCR's involvement in protection and assistance for some 1.8 million IDPs in Uganda. This included the opening of four offices in northern Uganda, undertaking protection and returnee monitoring as well as coordination of the protection and camp management and camp coordination clusters.

## Organization and implementation

### Management

UNHCR operations in Uganda were administered by the Representation in Kampala, supported by sub offices in Arua, Gulu and Moyo as well as field offices in Hoima, Kitgum, Lira, Mabirara and Pader and field units in Adjumani and Kigumba. In 2007, 150 staff worked at UNHCR offices in Uganda including 24 international staff, 85 national staff, four JPOs, 33 UNVs, two secondees and two consultants.

### Working with others

UNHCR participated in the inter-agency and IDP cluster coordination in Uganda contributing to its strategic direction, inter-agency response in emergencies and providing technical support. UNHCR co-chaired protection and camp coordination and camp management clusters ensuring coordinated approaches in

humanitarian interventions. In Kampala, UNHCR designated a cluster lead whose main function was to represent the Office in the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC). UNHCR participated actively in multi-agency field assessments and priority-setting exercises for refugees. In particular, joint food and nutritional assessment was carried out with WFP, the Government and donors. Participatory and multi-functional teams operating in IDP and refugee settlements assisted in identifying gaps and unmet operational needs for better programme planning and implementation.

## Overall assessment

Despite delays in the voluntary repatriation of refugees to Southern Sudan, and the lack of State resources which delayed implementation of the new Refugee Law, UNHCR achieved almost all its planned objectives. The cluster approach proved to be time- and labour-intensive in the field, where staff spent significant amounts of time in coordination meetings. A UN external audit was carried out in 2007 and the recommendations are currently being implemented by UNHCR.

### Partners

#### Implementing partners

**Government agencies:** Office of the Prime Minister, District Director of Health Services (Arua), District Education Officers (Arua, Moyo), Directorate of Community Services (Arua), Ministry of Works and Transport

**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, Christian Children's Fund, Danish Refugee Council, Directorate of Community Development, German Development Services, GOAL - Ireland, Health of Adolescents Programme, InterAid Uganda, Integrated Rural Development Initiatives, International Rescue Committee, Jesuit Refugee Services, Madi AIDS Control Initiative, National Lake Rescue Institute, Norwegian Refugee Council, Samaritan's Purse, War Child Canada, Windle Trust Uganda, Youth Anti Aids Service Association*

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

#### Operational partners

**Government Agencies:** Office of the Prime Minister

**NGOs:** Finnish Refugee Council, International Medical Corps, Right to Play

**Others:** OCHA, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNICEF, UNHCR, UNV, WFP

## Budget, income and expenditure (USD)

	Final budget	Income from contributions	Other funds available	Total funds available	Total expenditure
Annual budget	21,484,584	9,791,898	11,450,800	21,242,698	20,460,071
DRC SB	17,891	0	17,891	17,891	17,891
IDP SB	11,404,176	7,622,612	3,700,266	11,322,878	9,585,883
South Sudan SB	2,338,486	117,215	2,220,979	2,338,194	2,338,194
<b>Total</b>	<b>35,245,137</b>	<b>17,531,725</b>	<b>17,389,936</b>	<b>34,921,661</b>	<b>32,402,039</b>

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 (USD)

Expenditure breakdown	Current year's projects			Previous years' projects
	Annual budget	Supplementary budget	Total	Annual and supplementary budgets
Protection, monitoring and coordination	3,619,130	3,389,929	7,009,058	0
Community services	963,883	99,830	1,063,713	156,621
Crop production	8,331	0	8,331	4,653
Domestic needs and household support	89,250	83,695	172,946	132,405
Education	1,820,325	16,027	1,836,352	499,876
Forestry	94,304	0	94,304	80,728
Health and nutrition	2,340,738	109,861	2,450,598	875,142
Legal assistance	822,812	4,432,278	5,255,091	839,208
Operational support (to agencies)	1,884,194	1,366,616	3,250,810	793,823
Sanitation	222,825	14,256	237,080	105,151
Shelter and infrastructure	358,419	184,150	542,569	149,407
Transport and logistics	3,294,017	698,680	3,992,698	342,907
Water	427,560	43,259	470,818	146,676
Instalments with implementing partners	1,576,740	1,377,063	2,953,803	(4,126,597)
<b>Sub-total operational activities</b>	<b>17,522,527</b>	<b>11,815,643</b>	<b>29,338,171</b>	<b>0</b>
Programme support	2,937,544	126,325	3,063,869	0
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>20,460,071</b>	<b>11,941,969</b>	<b>32,402,040</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Cancellation on previous years' expenditure</b>				<b>(165,338)</b>
<b>Instalments with implementing partners</b>				
Payments made	9,986,170	5,537,251	15,523,421	
Reporting received	(8,409,430)	(4,160,188)	(12,569,618)	
<b>Balance</b>	<b>1,576,740</b>	<b>1,377,063</b>	<b>2,953,803</b>	
<b>Previous years' report</b>				
<b>Instalments with implementing partners</b>				
Outstanding 1st January				4,595,689
Reporting received				(4,126,597)
Refunded to UNHCR				(280,548)
Adjustments				(10,144)
<b>Balance</b>				<b>178,401</b>