WASH Dashboard

Uganda Country Refugee Response Plan 2026 - 2030

Quarter 1

January - March

Quarter Q1 2026

Overview of the sector and narrative

The Sector Overview:

In the first quarter of 2026, the WASH sector continued its transition from emergency service delivery toward resilience, sustainability, and integration into national systems, in line with the Water and Environment Sector Refugee Response Plan II (2026–2030). Building on momentum from Q4 2025, the sector advanced utility-led management approaches while strengthening climate-resilient infrastructure, particularly through renewable energy expansion. The reporting period also reflects a significantly larger service population, now reaching more than 1.8 million people, which places additional pressure on already stretched systems but also underscores the importance of sustainable, scalable service models.

The Result Analysis:

Water provision declined in Q1 2026 compared to the stabilization observed in Q4 2025. Average supply dropped to 15 liters per person per day (l/p/d) from 17l/p/d in quarter four, further below the 20 l/p/d standard. This is mainly due to the lack of funding for operation and maintenance of water systems in 9 of 12 settlements. While some settlements such as Imvepi (21 l/p/d) exceeded the standard, others such as Nakivale (7 l/p/d) remain at critical levels. This indicates persistent inequities in infrastructure capacity. The sector sustained strong progress on sustainability, with 83% of water supply powered by renewable energy, primarily solar (36%) and hand pumps (45.8%). Water trucking remained minimal at 0.9%, down from 1.5% during Q4 of 2025, showing improved supply reliability. Sanitation coverage improved slightly to 68% from 67%, but remains significantly below the 85% target. Variations across settlements persist, with Palorinya (77%) and Imvepi (75%) performing relatively well, while Rhino remains critically low at 47%. The hygiene promoter ratio declined to 1:990, significantly below the recommended 1:500 standard due to funding cuts in the WASH and health sector.

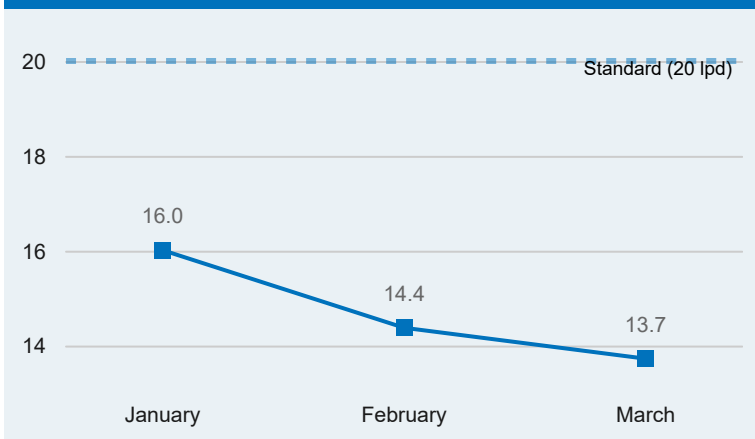
The Key Challenges/Opportunities:

- Key challenges include declining per capita water supply, infrastructure strain, sanitation gaps, and reduced hygiene workforce capacity, financial constraints continue to affect both capital investments and operations
- Opportunities include sustained high renewable energy usage, minimal reliance on water trucking, and continued progress toward utility-led management systems.

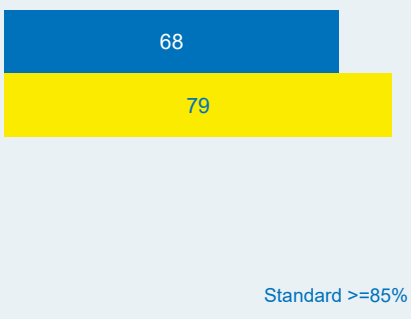
The Sector Priorities:

After the operation hitting record low in funding during the first quarter, the immediate priority is to re-instate all broken WASH systems (Broken water infrastructure and sanitation and hygiene systems) and emergency response to new arrivals. Continuation of the Bidibidi Zone 1 handover to Northern Umbrella, which will set the tone for future Northern and West Nile region transitions. Concurrently, the sector must address the "sanitation surge" required in settlements like Rhino and Palabek to prevent public health crises. This includes a commitment to continued household latrine construction, even in a limited funding environment, by leveraging the strengths of WASH operational partners. Additionally, the sector is focused on finalizing and signing comprehensive transition Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with the Ministry of Water and Environment, the OPM, and National Water and Sewerage Corporation. To support these efforts, a joint mission to Kiryandongo is required. For overall advocacy on transition the production of a water transition documentary is required. This media tool will be essential for resource mobilization, illustrating the successes of the Uganda model and advocating for the funding necessary to fully implement the goals of WESRRP II and ensure no refugee settlement is left behind in the pursuit of 20 l/p/d.

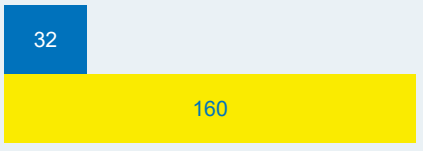
Key Indicators



Litres per person per day



Household latrine coverage



# of water schemes under management of national systems (NWSC or Umbrella Organisations, Areas service provider, water boards)

Achievements data: ActivityInfo (reported by sector lead)

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Outcome: Improved equitable and sustainable access to water supply for refugees and hosting population

Indicator	*Actual*	*Target/Standard ('26)*	*Actual*	*Gap*
Water pumped through renewable energy				
- Congolese Refugees	**75%**	**80%**	75%	80%
- South Sudanese Refugees	**80%**	**76%**	80%	76%
- Sudanese refugees	**60%**	**60%**	60%	60%
- Other refugees	**69%**	**75%**	69%	75%
Litres per person per day				
- Congolese Refugees	**14.9**	**17**	15	17
- South Sudanese Refugees	**18.1**	**19**	18	19
- Sudanese refugees	**14.1**	**15**	14	15
- Other refugees	**16.5**	**15**	16	15

Standard: 20.0

Outcome: Improved equitable and sustainable access to sanitation and hygiene services for refugees and hosting population

Household latrine coverage				
- Congolese Refugees	**68%**	**72%**	68%	72%
- South Sudanese Refugees	**67%**	**72%**	67%	72%
- Sudanese refugees	**66%**	**70%**	66%	70%
- Other refugees	**70%**	**72%**	70%	72%

Standard: 85%

Outcome: Improved equitable and sustainable access to water supply for refugees and hosting population

Indicator	*Actual*	*Target/Standard ('26)*	*Actual*	*Gap*
Persons reached with environment health and hygiene messages				
- Congolese Refugees	**82,101**		82,101	
- South Sudanese Refugees	**150,498**		150,498	
- Sudanese refugees	**NR**			
- Host community	**1,082**		1,082	
# of water schemes under management of national systems (NWSC or Umbrella Organisations, Areas service provider, water boards)				
- Congolese Refugees	**16**	**30**	16	30
- South Sudanese Refugees	**16**	**20**	16	20
- Sudanese refugees	**NR**	**50**		
- Other refugees	**NR**	**60**		
Water resource monitoring stations installed and frequently monitored				
- Congolese Refugees	**7**	**2**	7	2
- South Sudanese Refugees	**1**	**75**	1	75
- Sudanese refugees	**NR**	**8**		
- Other refugees	**NR**	**2**		

NR - *Indicate that no reports were received under the indicator for the situation.*

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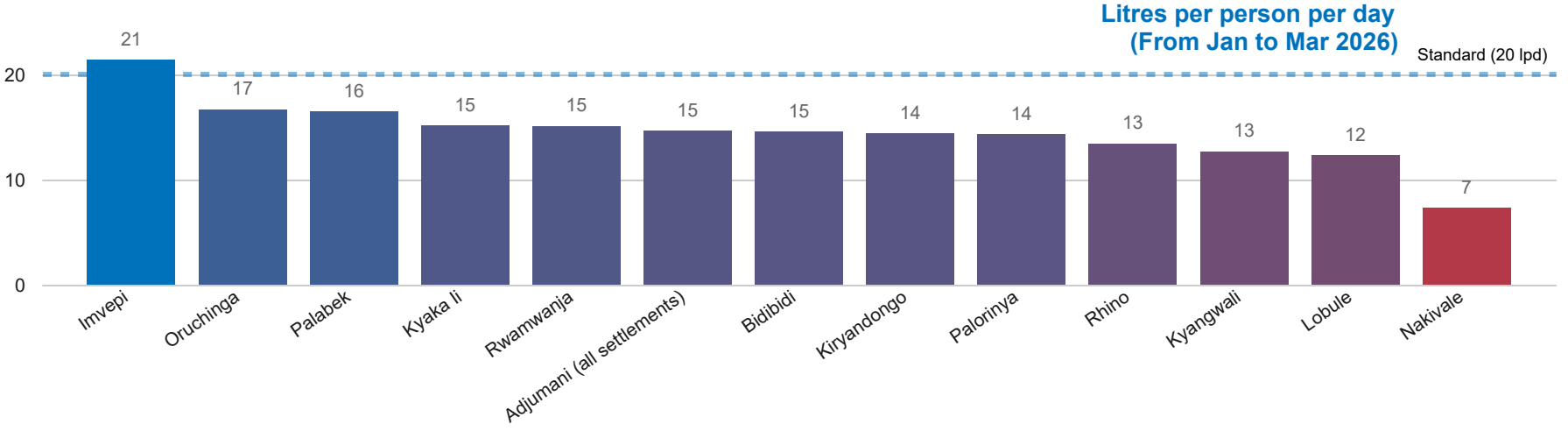
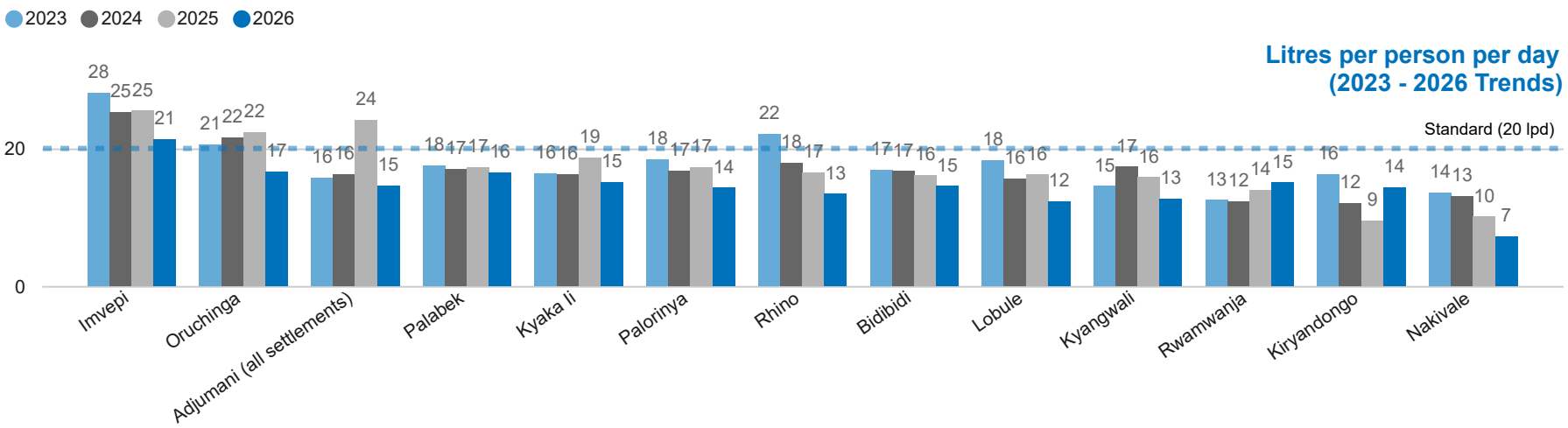
Key Indicators | Settlement Comparison

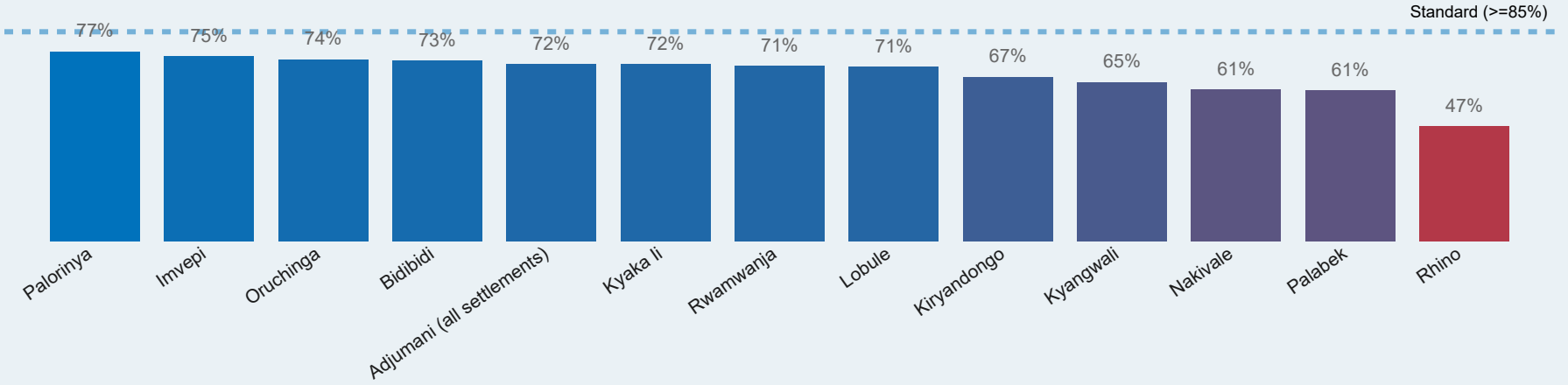
Litres per person per day (From Jan to Mar 2026)



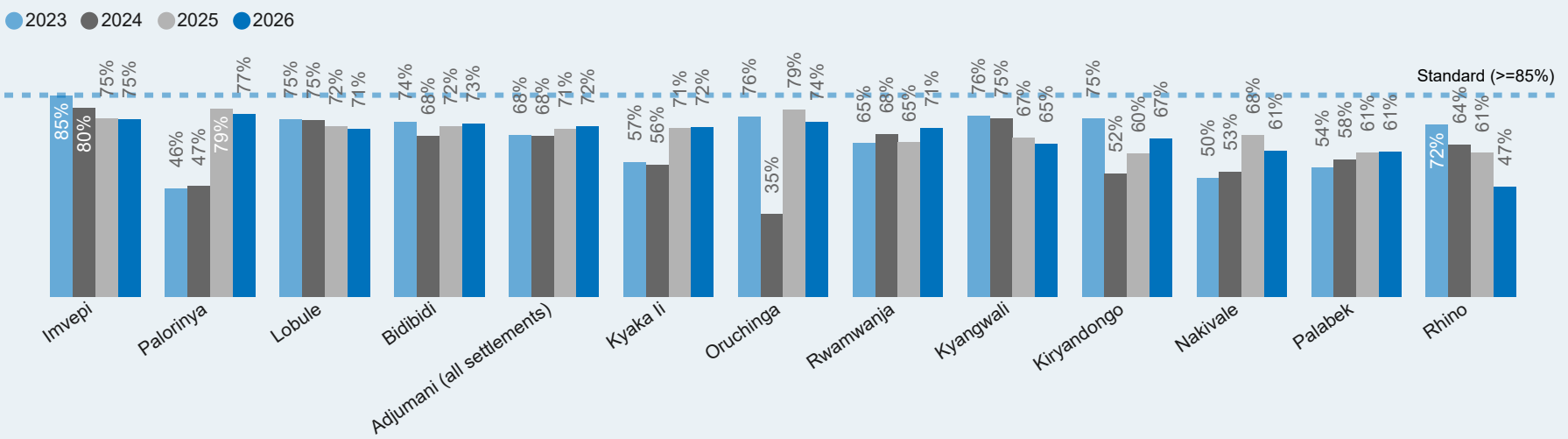
Litres per person per day (2023 - 2026 Trends)



Household latrine coverage (From Jan to Mar 2026)



Household latrine coverage (2023 - 2026 Trends)



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Funding

$46M

Total Requirement

$45.1M

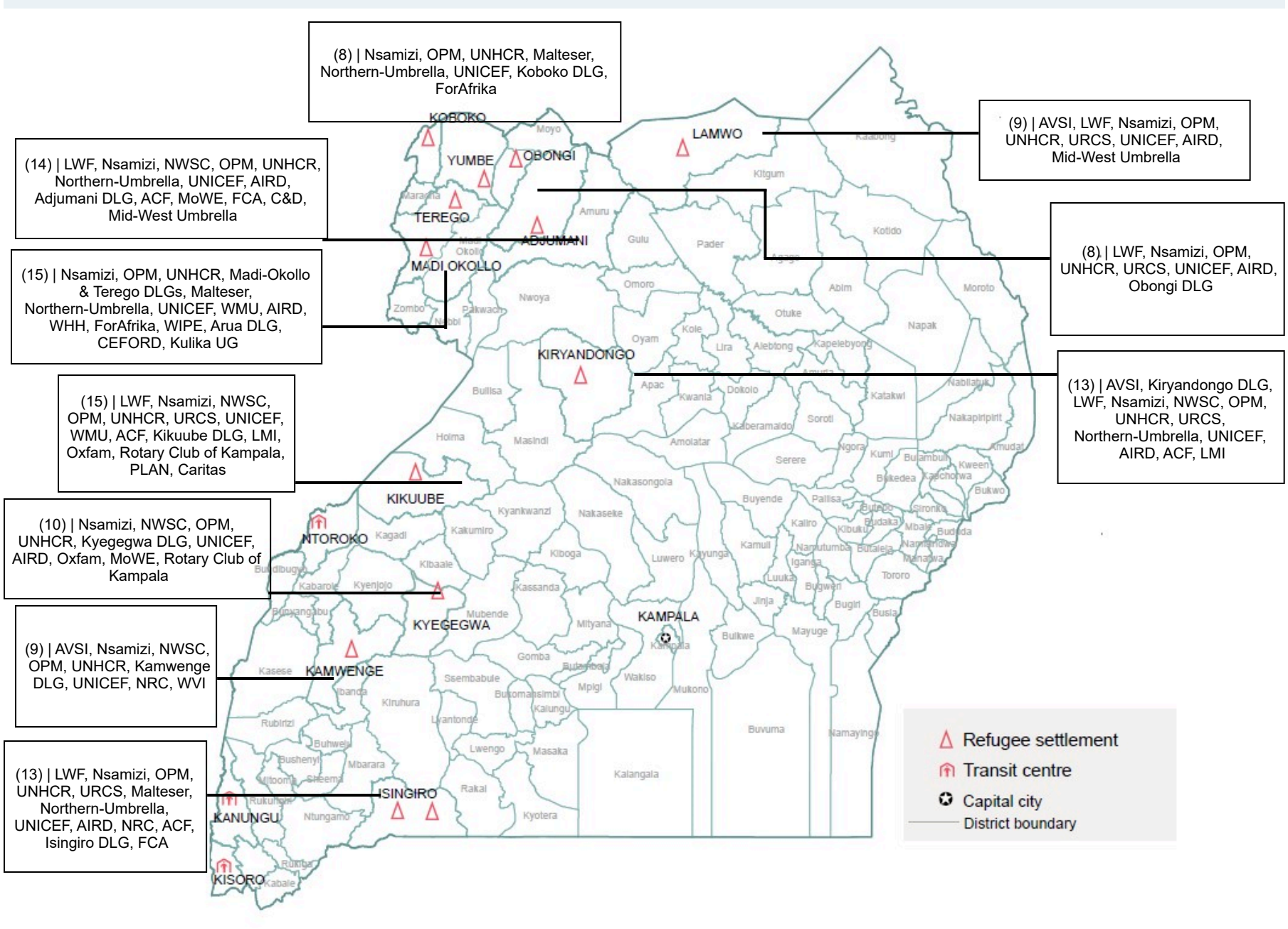
Received **2.0%**

Gap **98.0%**

Partner Reporting

Partners				
ACF	GIZ	Kyegegwa DLG	Nsamizi	UNICEF
Adjumani DLG	HEKSPER	LMI	NWSC	URCS
AIRD	Isingiro DLG	LWF	Obongi DLG	WHH
Arua DLG	Kamwenge DLG	Madi-Okollo DLG	OPM	WIPE
AVSI	Kikuube DLG	Malteser	Oxfam	WMU
CEFORD	Kiryandongo DLG	MoWE	Terego DLG	YUGNET
ForAfrika	Koboko DLG	Northern-Umbrella	UNHCR	Yumbe DLG

44 Partners | **18** INGOs | **3** NGOs | **2** UN Agencies | **21** NGOs



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