Overview of the sector and narrative

The Sector Overview:

The livelihoods and resilience sector aims to ensure that refugees and host communities in refugee-hosting areas live peacefully and progressively pursue self-reliance in an enabling environment that supports sustainable responses and inclusive livelihood opportunities. To contribute to this, partners facilitate agricultural productivity and economic inclusion of refugees and hosts by improving access to arable land, productive assets, and training in good agricultural practices as well as entrepreneurship, business development services, access to better market opportunities, and financial inclusion interventions.

The Result Analysis:

During the quarter, 4,993 refugee households were supported in accessing 2,693 acres of land, representing an 43% decrease from the 4,757 acres accessed in Q1 2025. The significant decline was primarily driven by increased demand for arable land, coupled with a substantial reduction in the number of actors supporting refugees' access to land. During the first quarter, only nine actors reported providing land access support, despite this being a critical period when such efforts are expected to intensify in preparation for the first planting season of the year. This reduction in support compared to 2025 has weakened the capacity to provide sustained assistance for refugee-led household food production, thereby limiting efforts to strengthen household food availability and access. Capacity-building interventions in Good Agricultural Practices reached 10,470 individuals, 22% more than quarter 1 of 2025 thereby contributing to production and productivity. Partners distributed productive assets (seeds, animal health kits, farm tools) to only 404 households, yet another significant drop from the 5,183 households served in Q1 of 2025. Sector partners continued to collaborate with the private sector to enhance private-sector participation in refugee-hosting areas. Entrepreneurship training reached 1,743, down from 9,193 in Q1 of 2025 and business development skills training reached 2,823, down from 8,138 in Q1 of 2025. This leaves a major gap, as many were not reached with the skills needed in a quarter where it would have been prioritized, given that more than half of the quarter was off-season. Increased investment is necessary to strengthen farmers' capacity for resilience.

The Key Challenges/Opportunities:

Scarce land available for agricultural production is undoing years of collective gains in livelihoods and economic inclusion programming. Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) households received only 0.25 acres per household, while South Sudan (SSD) households received about an acre (0.87), and the best this quarter in terms of land accessed was Sudan (SUD), at only 1 acre per household. All fall below the 1.2 acres needed for self-reliance, which is insufficient to support the production of cereals and/or legumes for food and income security. Ongoing conflict in South Sudan, Sudan, and the Democratic Republic of Congo continues to be a major driver of the refugee influx into Uganda. This continued inflow has heightened pressure on available land, thereby reducing the land available for agricultural production. Even more concerning, refugees face significant obstacles in accessing credit and other financial services from formal financial institutions. This is due to their limited socioeconomic status, service providers' reluctance to accept refugee identification documents, lack of collateral, and delays in Know Your Customer (KYC) verification. To address these issues, stronger advocacy with regulators and financial services providers is needed to improve access to credit and other services. The sector plans to work with the Private Sector Foundation of Uganda (PSFU), OPM, MoIA, URA, URSB, and the Uganda Bankers Association to achieve this. At the same time, administrative barriers persist in refugees' access to formal employment. Informal short-term employment opportunities are limited — only 269 individuals were linked to employment opportunities during the quarter, down from 486 in Q1 of 2025, while 656 individuals accessed short-term employment. Difficulties obtaining work permits for formal employment further compound these challenges, especially given Uganda's high unemployment rates.

The Sector Priorities:

Advocacy with the government and host communities to expand refugees' access to agricultural land remains a sector priority, alongside ensuring limited funds are used effectively to support both refugees and host households. Through strengthened data and information management coordination, the sector is improving beneficiary records to reduce duplication, enhance synergies, and strengthen program design and targeting. In collaboration with the inter-agency coordination unit, the sector is also guiding resource prioritization and targeting amid declining resources in 2026/2027. Advocacy for multi-year funding, coupled with stronger thematic coordination — including the systematic sharing of best practices, innovations, and lessons learned — is essential. In addition, collaboration with the Ministry of Gender, Labor, and Social Development and partners continues the rollout of the Self-Reliance Index Measurement.

Sector Contacts:
Hellen Acibo (OPM) hellen.acibo@opm.go.ug
Gerald Emoyo (UNHCR) emoyo@unhcr.org
Paul Onyait (ACF) ponyait@ug-actionagainsthunger.org

Published : June 2026

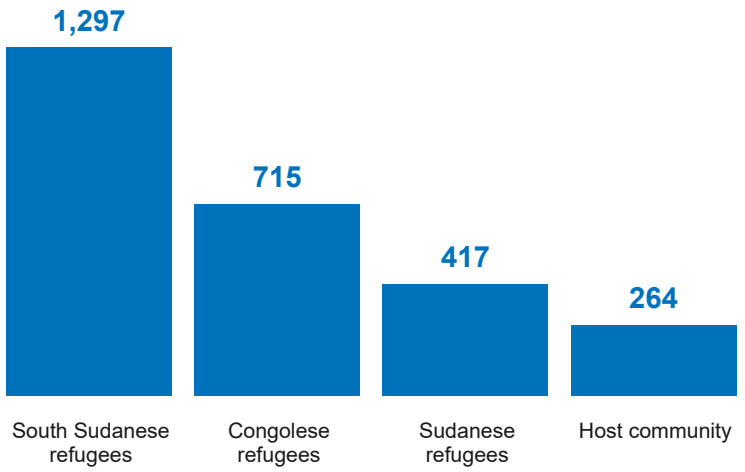
Livelihood & Resilience Dashboard

Uganda Refugee Response Plan 2026 - 2030

Quarter 1
January - March

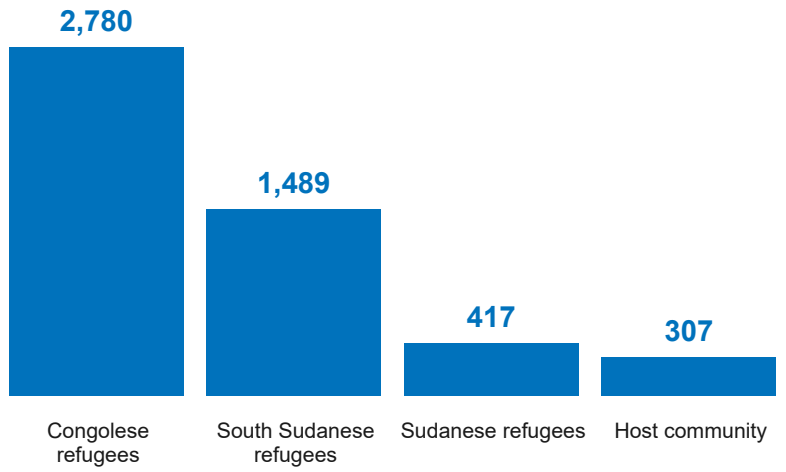
Quarter
Q1 2026

Key Indicators



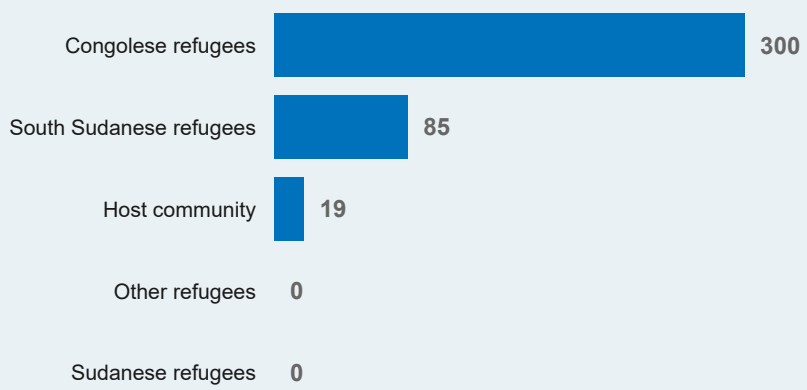
Acres of arable land accessed by refugees and host community

2,693



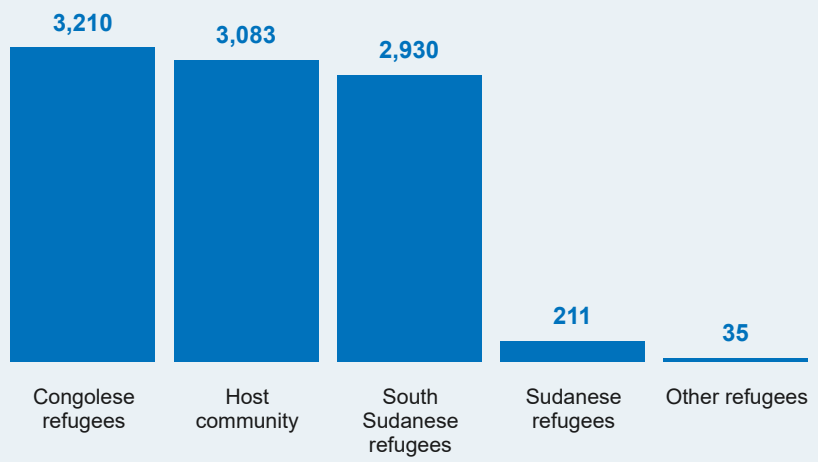
Households with access to arable land

4,993



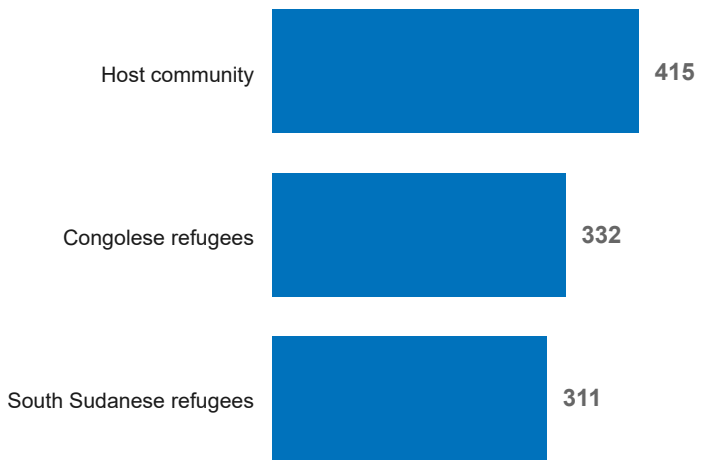
HHs receiving productive assets (mechanical tools)

404



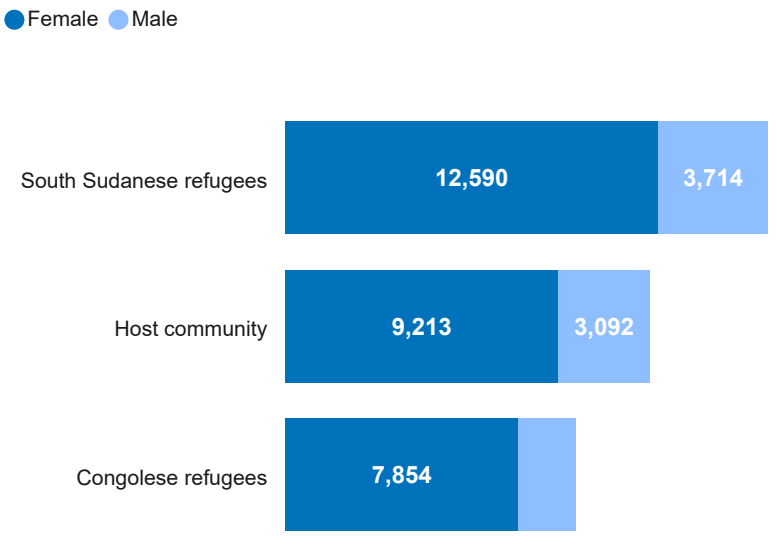
Individuals trained on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP)

9,469



VSLAs formed

1009



Individuals in VSLA's

38,406

Achievements data: ActivityInfo **Author:** UNHCR Representation in Uganda **Feedback:** ugakaimug@unhcr.org **For more info:** https://data.unhcr.org/en/country/uga

Sector Contacts:
Hellen Acibo (OPM)
hellen.acibo@opm.go.ug
Gerald Emoyo (UNHCR)
emoyo@unhcr.org
Paul Onyait (ACF)
ponyait@ug-actionagainsthunger.org

Published : June 2026

Livelihood & Resilience Dashboard

Uganda Refugee Response Plan 2026 - 2030

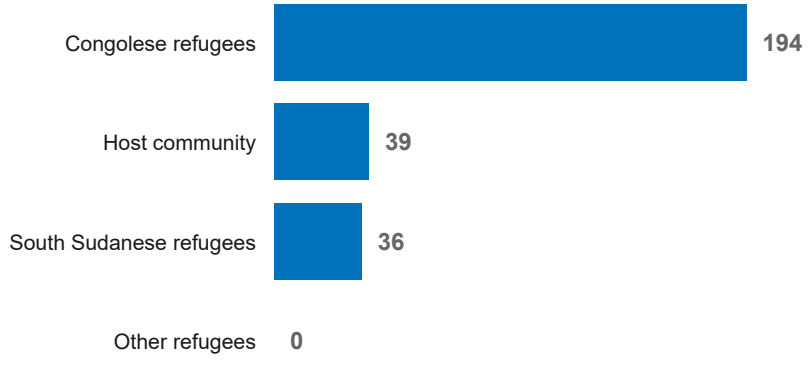
Quarter 1

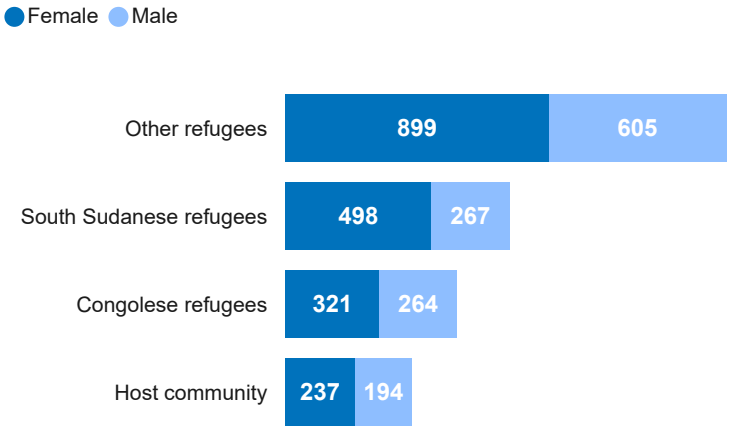
January - March

Quarter

Q1 2026

Key Indicators



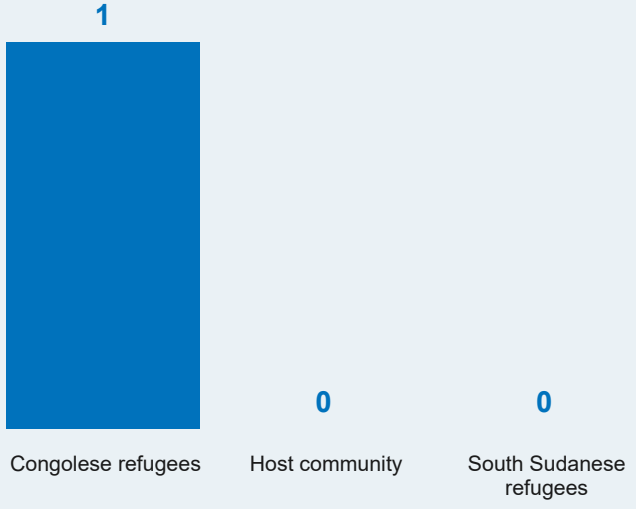


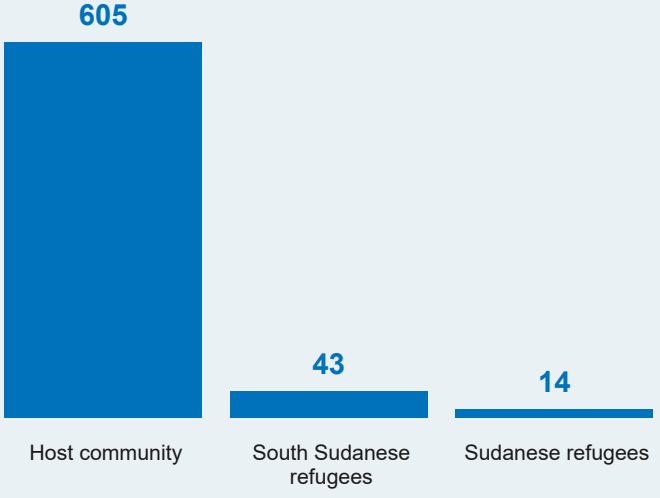
Graduates linked with employers

269

Individuals that received market driven skills training

3,285





Refugee-led businesses formally registered

1

Enterprises receiving mentorship/incubation support

662

Achievements data: ActivityInfo **Author:** UNHCR Representation in Uganda **Feedback:** ugakaimug@unhcr.org **For more info:** https://data.unhcr.org/en/country/uga

Sector Contacts:
Hellen Acibo (OPM)
hellen.acibo@opm.go.ug
Gerald Emoyo (UNHCR)
emoyo@unhcr.org
Paul Onyait (ACF)
ponyait@ug-actionagainsthunger.org

Published : June 2026

Livelihood & Resilience Dashboard

Uganda Refugee Response Plan 2026 - 2030

2026
Quarter 1

Outcome 1 : Increased agricultural surpluses to meet food needs and generate income

Indicator	*Actual*	*Target/Standard ('26)*	*Actual*	*Gap*
Households trained on Good Agricultural Practices				
Congolese Refugees	**803**	**4,300**	**19.0%**	**81.0%**
South Sudanese Refugees	**733**	**8,200**	**9.0%**	**91.0%**
Sudanese Refugees	**53**	**750**	**7.0%**	**93.0%**
Host Community	**771**	**1,250**	**62.0%**	**38.0%**

Funding

153M
Total Requirement

21.6M Received **14%**
131.4M Gap **86%**

Partners

Partners
ACF
ADRA
AFARD
Alight
AVSI
AWR
AWYAD
BfA

Partners
Caritas
CEFORD
CFI
ChildVoice
COVOID
CRS
DOP
EveryShelter

Partners
FAO
FH
FRC
GRTR
HEKS/EPER (SCA)
HHA
JRS
LMI

Partners
LWF
MC
MCCJ
PALM Corps
Plan
RESDA
RICE-WN
SeedEffect

Partners
SOS
ThriveGulu
TPO
UCOBAC
UNICEF
WHH
WVI
ZOA

Partner Reporting Breakdown

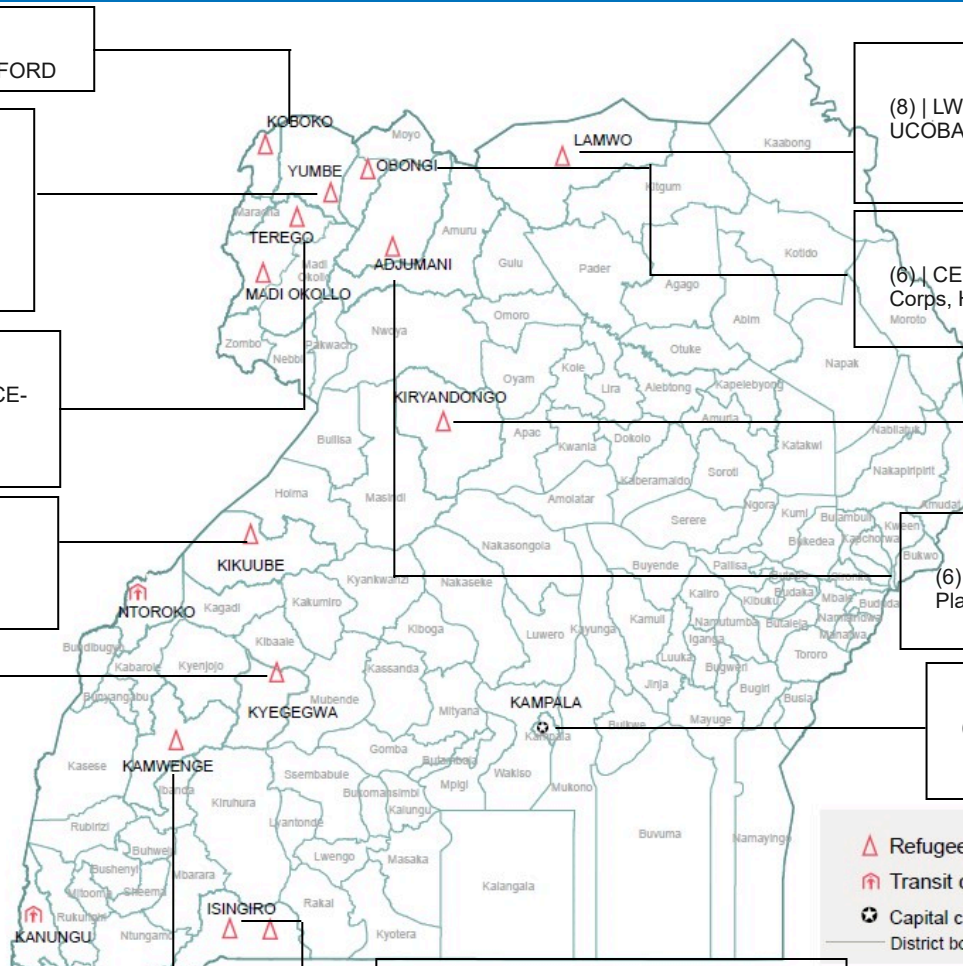
40 Partners

26 INGOs

10 NGOs

2 RLOs

2 UN Agencies



(1) | CEFORD

(13) | CRS, CEFORD, WHH, MC, AFARD, BfA, HEKS/EPER (SCA), FAO, PALM Corps, HHA, RICE-WN, ADRA, WVI

(6) | CEFORD, WHH, GRTR, RICE-WN, SeedEffect, ChildVoice

(5) | LWF, AVSI, UNICEF, ACF, Alight

(8) | AVSI, AWYAD, FRC, UNICEF, RESDA, Alight, Caritas, ADRA

(4) | AVSI, EveryShelter, SOS, ADRA

(8) | LWF, AVSI, AWR, TPO, FAO, UCOBAC, ThriveGulu, ADRA

(6) | CEFORD, MCCJ, PALM Corps, HHA, SeedEffect, CFI

(4) | FRC, FAO, PALM Corps, SeedEffect

(6) | CEFORD, JRS, LWF, Plan, ACF, FH

(1) | JRS

(9) | AVSI, DOP, HEKS/EPER (SCA), FRC, EveryShelter, ACF, FAO, COVOID, Alight

Note: Partners in Terego and Madi-Okollo are reported jointly

A total of 40 partners reported during Q1 2026 - the same as Q1 2025. Overall, the West Nile/North districts had the highest number of partners reporting, with Yumbe, home to the Bidibidi settlement, with the highest number of reporting partners.

In contrast, the South West region saw fewer partners reporting; Isingiro district, where Nakivale and Oruchinga settlements are located, had the highest number of partners reporting in that area.

Achievements data: ActivityInfo **Author:** UNHCR Representation in Uganda **Feedback:** ugakaimug@unhcr.org **For more info:** https://data.unhcr.org/en/country/uga

Sector Contacts:
Hellen Acibo (OPM) hellen.acibo@opm.go.ug
Gerald Emoyo (UNHCR) emoyo@unhcr.org
Paul Onyait (ACF) ponyait@ug-actionagainsthunger.org

Published : June 2026

Livelihood & Resilience Dashboard

Uganda Refugee Response Plan 2026 - 2030

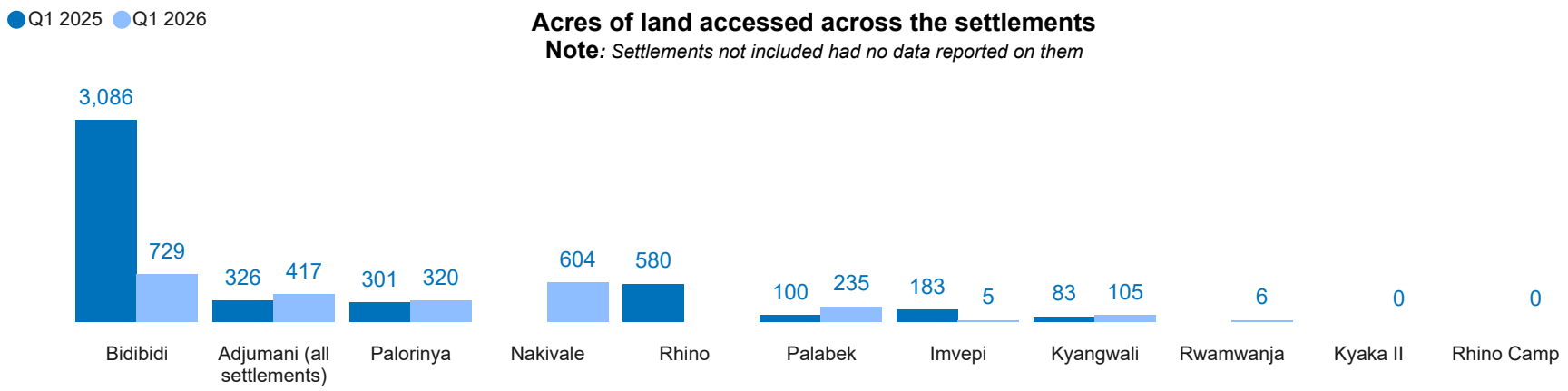
2026

Quarter 1

Key Indicators

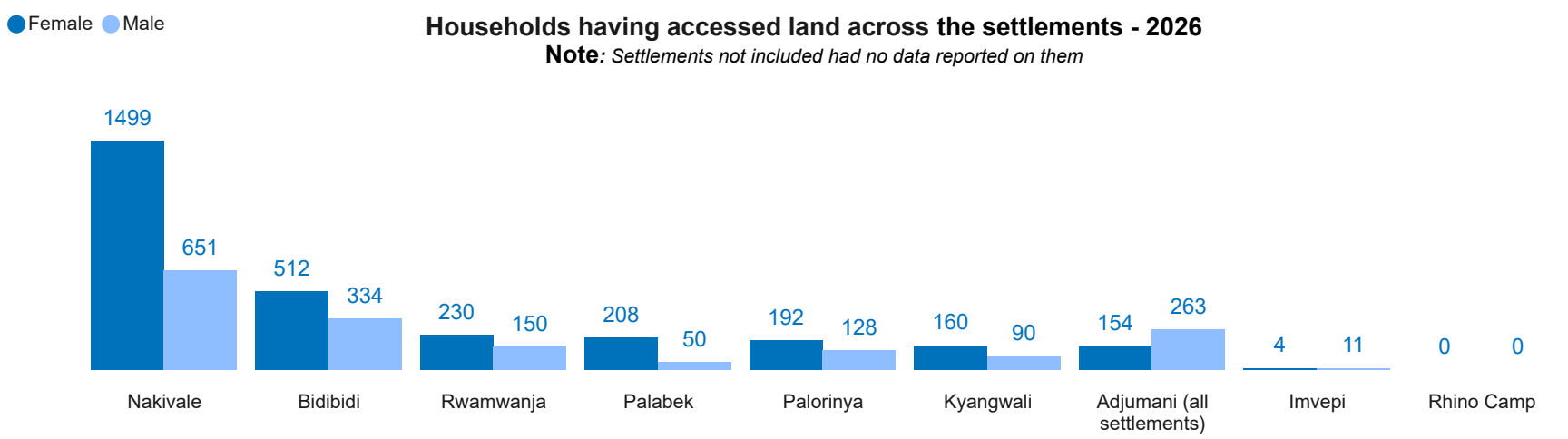
Acres of land accessed across the settlements

Note: *Settlements not included had no data reported on them*



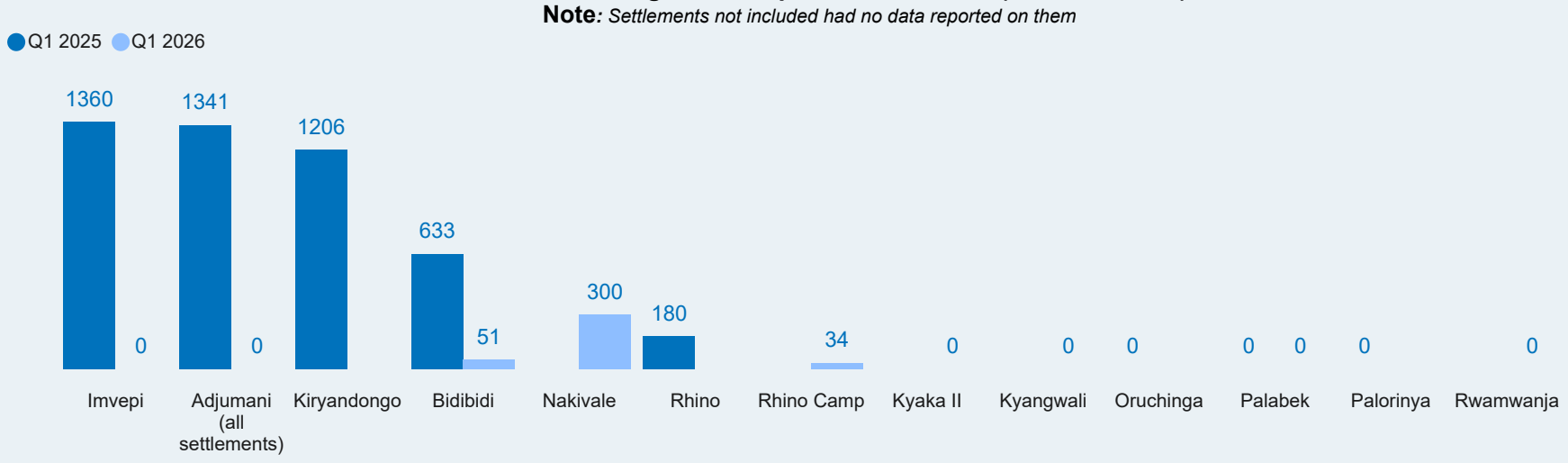
Households having accessed land across the settlements - 2026

Note: *Settlements not included had no data reported on them*



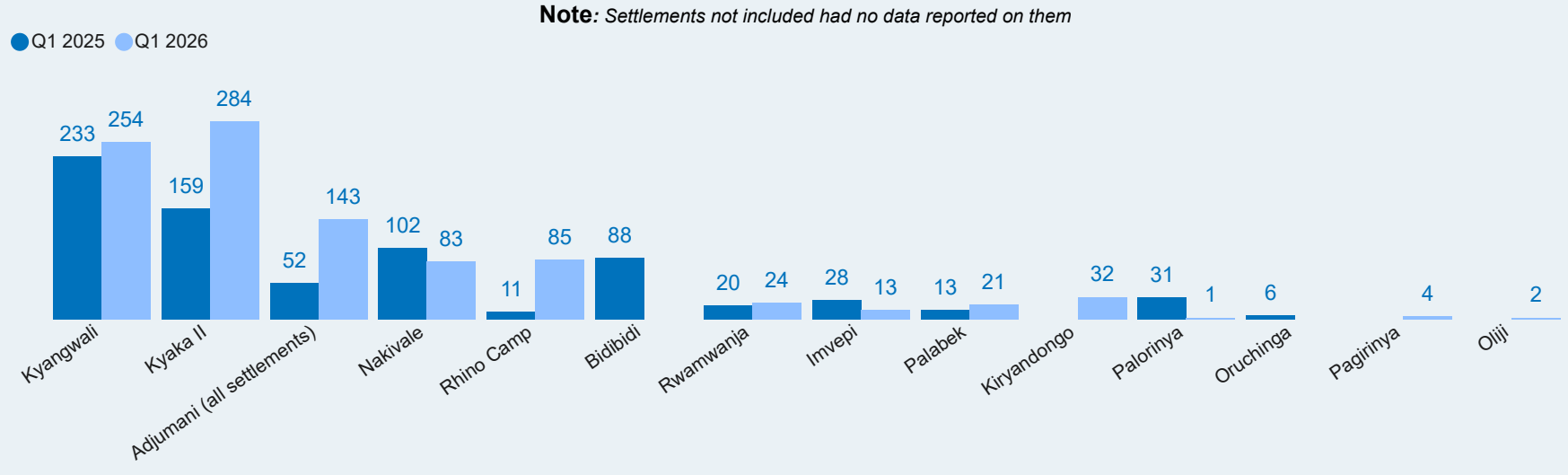
Households having received productive assets (cash & in-kind)

Note: *Settlements not included had no data reported on them*



VSLAs across the settlements

Note: *Settlements not included had no data reported on them*



Achievements data: ActivityInfo **Author:** UNHCR Representation in Uganda **Feedback:** ugakaimug@unhcr.org **For more info:** https://data.unhcr.org/en/country/uga

Sector Contacts:

Hellen Acibo (OPM)
hellen.acibo@opm.go.ug

Gerald Emoyo (UNHCR)
emoyo@unhcr.org

Paul Onyait (ACF)
ponyait@ug-actionagainsthunger.org

Published : June 2026