

Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework

UGANDA

Terms of Reference

Steering Group for the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework in Uganda

Purpose

Under the leadership of the Government of Uganda, the Steering Group for the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) will represent the views of key stakeholders involved in the refugee response. It will guide and oversee the work of the CRRF Secretariat and ensure that it can function effectively. The CRRF Steering Group is the policy- and decision-making body for the implementation of CRRF. It will inform and advise on the Comprehensive Refugee Response in support of Uganda's contribution to the Global Compact for Refugees (scheduled to be adopted by UN General Assembly in 2018).

Context

Uganda has already established exemplary policies and plans in response to the needs of refugees and host populations as prescribed by the CRRF. Refugees have been incorporated into the second National Development Plan (NDP II) through the Settlement Transformative Agenda (STA), and the rights of refugees have been incorporated into domestic law through the 2006 Refugee Act and the 2010 Regulations. These efforts predate the CRRF. In the Ugandan context, the CRRF is in principle already being applied under five themes:

1. Admission and Rights;
2. Emergency and ongoing needs;
3. Resilience and self-reliance;
4. Expanded solutions (including access to third country solutions), and
5. Voluntary repatriation (including investing in human capital and transferrable skills and supporting conditions in countries of origin).

The Uganda Solidarity Summit on Refugees held in June 2017 adopted the “Kampala Declaration on Refugees” which underlined that the magnitude and challenges of the refugee situation in Uganda calls for a multifaceted comprehensive refugee response. The Declaration called upon UNHCR to continue developing, in consultation with the Government and relevant partners, modalities for the enhanced application of the CRRF as a contribution to the Global Compact for Refugees, which will be put forward by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees as requested by the New York Declaration.

Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework

UGANDA

The focus for the Comprehensive Refugee Response will be the main refugee hosting districts, as this is where the operational implementation of the response, in close alignment with District Development Plans (DDPs), will be undertaken.

Tasks

The CRRF Steering Group will set the overall strategic direction for the implementation of CRRF in Uganda, supported by the technical and analytical work of the CRRF Secretariat. The Steering Group will be the policy and decision-making platform. Detailed functions include:

Strategic Direction and Implementation

- Ensure that all stakeholders share a common vision for what the CRRF is trying to achieve
- Ensure a strategic short, medium and long-term plan is in place which enables concrete interventions by public and private sector, development and humanitarian actors to have tangible impact on the lives of refugees and the communities which host them
- By engaging with the range of stakeholder involved, ensure coherence and alignment of policy and planning to avoid duplication or gaps and to maximise the impact of contributing resources.

Policy and Advocacy

- Guide the review and implementation of the CRRF in alignment with national priorities
- Advocate for support to the CRRF implementation in Uganda including further policy development and adjustment, as necessary
- Guide Uganda's implementation of related key frameworks such as the IGAD Plan of Action for the Nairobi Declaration on Somali Refugees
- Serve as a forum for the consideration of issues that may impede the implementation of CRRF in Uganda and propose ways to address such obstacles

Financing

- The Steering Group should be informed of the financial situation in regards to the refugee response as well as resource requirements as expressed through established Government and other mechanisms (i.e. district development plans, national development plans, sector strategies, inter-agency refugee response plans etc)
- The steering Group will support monitoring of the use of funds within the established mechanism for financial tracking under the leadership of the Government, in particular in relation to the Open/ Multi-donor Solidarity Basket Account of the Office of the Prime Minister.

Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework

UGANDA

Facilitate, task and oversee the CRRF Secretariat

- Ensure office space and administrative support is provided for the CRRF Sec. (PS OPM)
- Ensure the CRRF Secretariat is adequately resourced with competent officers with appropriate profiles
- Approve TORs for the CRRF Secretariat
- Review and approve the CRRF Secretariat's annual work plans in line with the TOR
- Review and guide proposals from the CRRF Secretariat on the technical and analytical work to be undertaken, including objectives, indicators and road map.
- Monitor status and progress on CRRF plans and provide recommendations
- Monitor status and progress on funding for a comprehensive refugee response and provide recommendations
- Review analytical products undertaken by the CRRF Secretariat and/or other actors and provide recommendations for CRRF implementation

Leadership, Membership and Coordination

The CRRF Steering Group will be chaired by the Government. Steering Group meetings will be co-chaired by the Minister of Disaster Preparedness and Refugees (OPM) and the Minister of Local Government, or by the respective Permanent Secretaries.¹

The CRRF Steering Group will include the Commissioner for Refugees, key ministries, Local District representatives, other high-level representatives (Heads) from Government, UN, IFIs, development partners, INGOs/NGOs, CSOs and/or private sector. Other non-traditional actors in the refugee response will be encouraged to join in the future. The CRRF Steering Group shall meet at least quarterly and as deemed necessary by the chair.

The Steering Group will inform the National Partnership Forum (NPF) of progress on the CRRF, to ensure alignment with existing Government coordination mechanisms with partners. An expanded NPF including civil society and private sector could enhance wider ownership and dialogue.

The CRRF Steering Group will guide Uganda's contribution to the development of a Global Compact for Refugees, scheduled to be adopted by the UN general assembly in September 2018. The Steering Group shall review purpose, activities and operational arrangements for the CRRF Secretariat beyond 2018. As per UNHCR's global mandate to develop and initiate

¹ The co-chairing arrangement between OPM and MoLG was agreed at the 3rd meeting of the CRRF Steering Group meeting held on 18 April 2018, acknowledging the central role of the Ministry of Local Government as the coordination ministry for the Local Governments which host refugees.

Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework UGANDA

modalities for the application of the CRRF to a range of specific refugee situations, the CRRF Steering Group will benefit from technical support by UNHCR. UNHCR will also ensure that the Steering Group is informed about the global channels and discussions in regard to the roll-out of the Comprehensive Refugee Response globally, to help inform Uganda's inputs into the Global Compact for Refugees.

Adopted in Kampala at the 1st CRRF Steering Group Meeting 12 October 2017²

² Revised following the 3rd meeting of the CRRF Steering Group held on 18 April 2018, reflecting the agreed co-chairing arrangement (OPM and MoLG).