

# Refugee Access to Livelihoods and Housing, Land, and Property

May 2019  
UGANDA

## CONTEXT

Uganda is currently hosting the largest number of refugees in the region with over 1.2 million refugees and asylum seekers, primarily from South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), and Burundi.<sup>1</sup> Recently arrived refugees have joined Rwandese, Somali, and other refugees that have lived in Uganda for decades. Due to the large number of refugees, the range of countries of origin, and the varying lengths of displacement, there are key information gaps on how access to or lack of housing, land, and property (HLP) for refugees impact their potential for sustainable livelihoods. In partnership with Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), REACH conducted an assessment from 3 December 2018 to 15 March 2019 to collect baseline data on refugees' access to livelihoods and HLP. The assessment aims to provide a better understanding of the conditions of refugee access to livelihoods and HLP, the linkages, and other factors influencing sustainable livelihoods and potential movement within Uganda.

## METHODOLOGY

A mixed methods approach was used, driven by a household-level structured survey, semi-structured key informant interviews (KIIs) and focus group discussions (FGDs). The quantitative household-level survey produced results representative for the refugee population in 30 refugee settlements (considered as 25 due to five combined settlements in Adjumani) across 11 districts, as well as select divisions of Kampala (Makindye, Kampala Central, and Kawempe) with a 95% confidence level and 10% margin of error at the settlement level for all questions asked to the entire sample size. A total of 3,165 households were interviewed for this assessments. All questions referring to a subset are footnoted.

KIIs and FGDs were used to triangulate the data and provide context to quantitative findings. KIIs targeted settlement leadership, including Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) commandants and UNHCR staff, refugee welfare committee leaders, district local government officials, and key partners working in relevant sectors. Semi-structured FGDs were stratified by gender and conducted with refugee and host community groups in each location.

**Findings in this factsheet are representative of households living in the 3 selected neighbourhoods of Kampala District. A total of 354 refugee households were interviewed in Kampala District.**

## POPULATION PROFILE OF REFUGEES IN UGANDA

### Demographics<sup>1</sup>

Female	Age	Male
20%	2%   60+	1%
8%	18-59	16%
13%	12-17	9%
9%	5-11	13%
	0-4	9%

Female-headed households (HHs):  
**67%**

Average household size:  
**7**

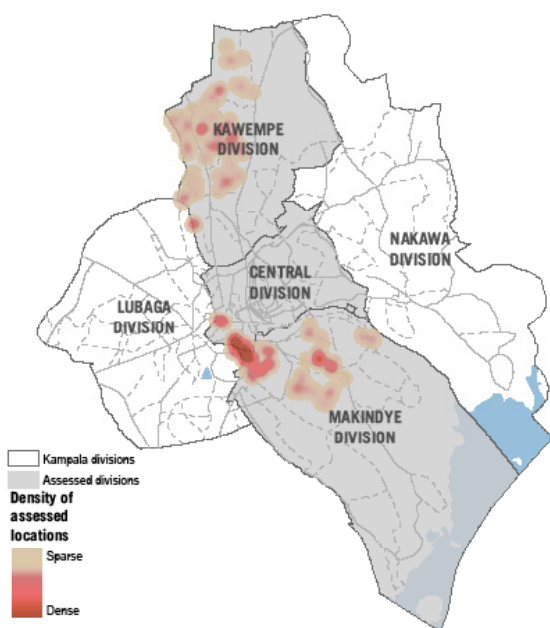
### Displacement demographics<sup>1</sup>

#### Top countries of origin:<sup>1</sup>

- 1 South Sudan (65%)
- 2 DRC (27%)
- 3 Burundi (3%)
- 4 Somalia (2%)

## BRIEF OVERVIEW OF KAMPALA DISTRICT

Kampala, capital of and largest city in Uganda, is home to approximately 1.5 million inhabitants and hosts around 61,399 refugees, composing 5% of Kampala's population. Refugees are primarily from DRC, South Sudan, Somalia, Burundi and Rwanda. Kampala district is divided into 5 divisions and the assessment focused on Kawempe, Central Division and Makindye.

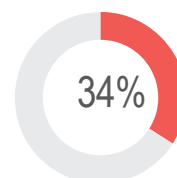


## HHs WITH VULNERABLE MEMBERS

Unaccompanied/separated child, orphan	12%
Disabled members	20%
Pregnant / lactating women	13%
Female-headed HHs	56%

HHs reporting member with persons with specific needs (PSN) card: **6%**

HHs reporting that some members are not registered as refugees:



## TOP 3 HLP CHALLENGES<sup>2</sup>

Housing <sup>3</sup>	90%
Property	12%
Land accessed for housing	4%

<sup>1</sup> Figures based on United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) population figures updated as of April 2019.

<sup>2</sup> This question was only asked to the 15% of respondents facing HLP challenges. The level of confidence may thus be lower than 95%.

<sup>3</sup> Respondents could answer more than one option for this question.

# HOUSING

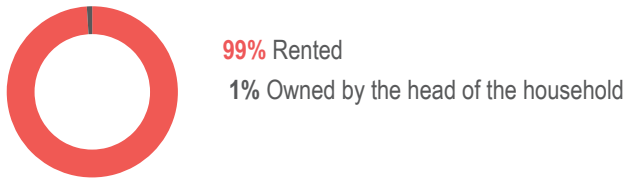
UGANDA  
KAMPALA DISTRICT

HHs perceiving themselves at risk of eviction:

26%

## TENURE ARRANGEMENTS

% of HHs by shelter tenure:



76% of HHs have documentation proving ownership or legal occupancy of shelter.

Of those, the most commonly reported types of documentation are:<sup>3</sup>



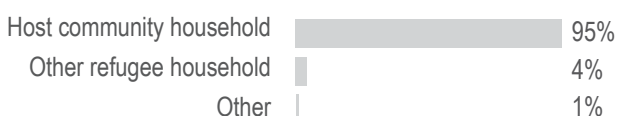
Of the 94% of HHs who reported their renting costs:

Average monthly rent: **349,787 UGX**

Of those, proportion of income spent on rent:



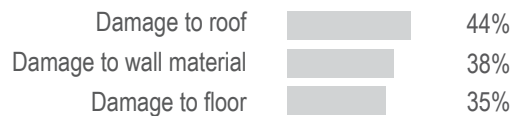
% of renting HHs by person they are paying the rent to:<sup>3</sup>



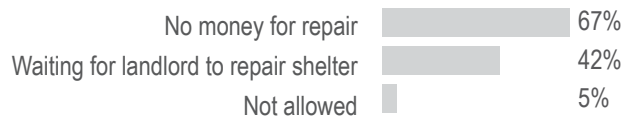
Average number of individuals per room: **5**

## SHELTER CHALLENGES

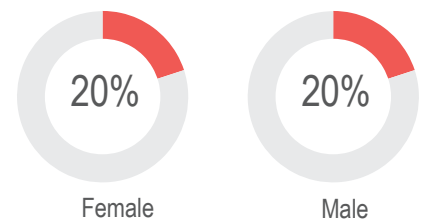
23% of HHs reported shelter damage. Of those, the most commonly reported parts of the shelter damaged are:<sup>3</sup>



75% of HHs reported not being able to conduct repairs. Of those, the most commonly reported reasons include:<sup>3</sup>



% of HHs reporting members do not feel safe in their current shelter:

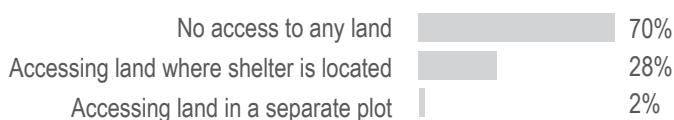


29% of HHs reported having sometimes, often or always visible wastewater in the vicinity (30 meters or less) of their accommodation in the 30 days prior to data collection

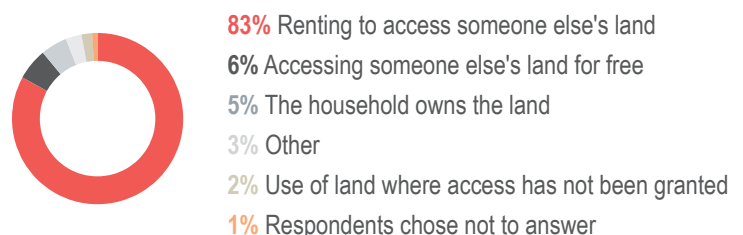
# LAND

## ACCESS TO LAND

% of HHs reporting:<sup>3</sup>



Method of accessing land around shelter plot:



# HLP Challenges

15% of HHs reported facing HLP challenges. Of those:

Most commonly reported areas of HLP issues (% of HLP issues):<sup>3</sup>



Most commonly reported types of HLP issues (% of HLP issues):<sup>3</sup>



## HLP ISSUE RESOLUTION

10% of the 55 HLP issues reported were attempted to be resolved by the HHs

Out of the HLP issues that HHs attempted to resolve, the following mechanisms were used:<sup>3</sup>



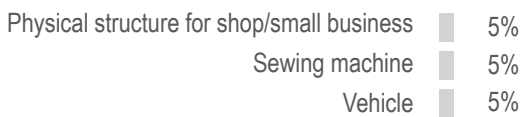
9% of the HLP issues reported were resolved

## PROPERTY

82% of HHs reported having no property at all. Out of the 18% who do:

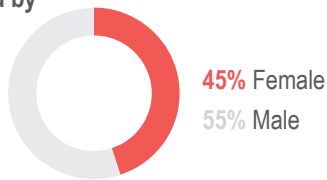
HHs with income-generating property: **10%**

Most commonly reported type of property:<sup>3</sup>



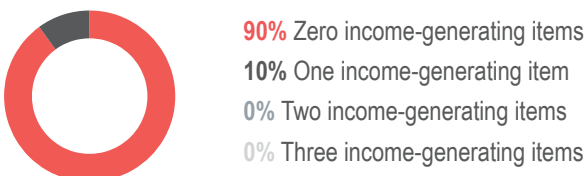
94% of property items are owned by one owner.

Proportion of those by sex of owner:



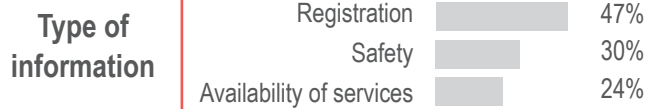
70% of HHs that own property/assets reported having documentation proving ownership or legal access

% of HHs by number of income-generating property items reportedly owned:



## ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Most commonly reported sources and types of information HHs access:<sup>3</sup>



90% of HHs reported trusting the information they receive

Most commonly reported information needs of HHs:<sup>3</sup>

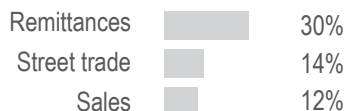


HHs reporting perceived livelihoods challenges:

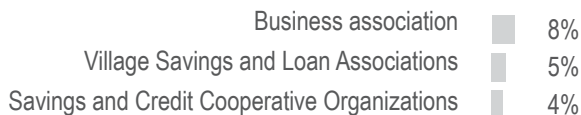
97%

## LIVELIHOODS SOURCES

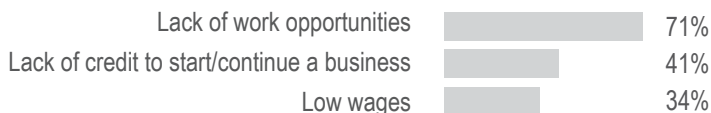
Out of the 84% of HHs who reported having a source of income, the most commonly reported sources are:<sup>3</sup>



Most commonly reported livelihood groups HH members participate in:<sup>3</sup>



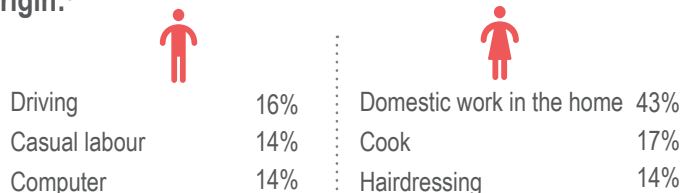
Most commonly reported livelihoods challenges:<sup>3</sup>



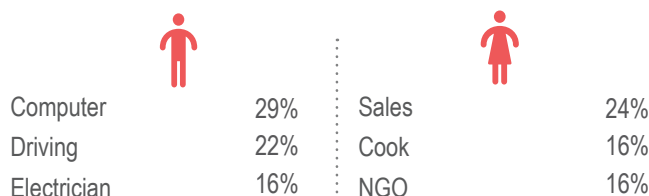
## SKILLS AND ASPIRATIONS

78% of HHs have men of working age and 85% of HHs have women of working age. Of those:

Most commonly reported livelihoods skills gained in country of origin:<sup>3</sup>



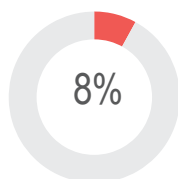
Most commonly reported livelihoods aspirations:<sup>3</sup>



# MOVEMENTS WITHIN UGANDA

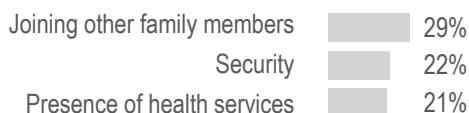
## PAST MOVEMENTS

% of HHs that had at least one member move in the year prior to data collection:



Of those:

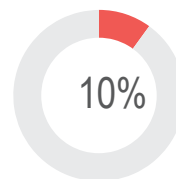
Most commonly reported reasons for moving:<sup>3</sup>



84% of the HHs with at least one member who moved reported that they receive resources from the member that moved

## MOVEMENT INTENTIONS

% of HHs that have at least one member planning to move in the 6 months following data collection:



Of those:

Most commonly reported reasons for planned movement:<sup>3</sup>

