

Uganda

January 2020

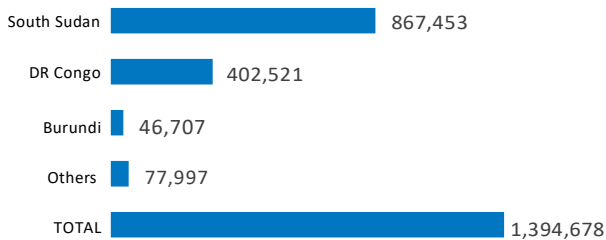
Uganda is currently hosting **1,394,678** refugees and continues to receive simultaneous arrivals from the **Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)**, **South Sudan** and **Burundi**.

The number of South Sudanese refugees in Uganda is over eight hundred thousand, and arrivals from the DRC have been on the rise since the beginning of 2020.

Chronic underfunding of the refugee response threatens the ability of humanitarian organisations to continue delivering **lifesaving and critical assistance**.

POPULATION OF CONCERN: 1,394,678

Countries of Origin*

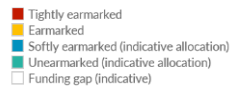
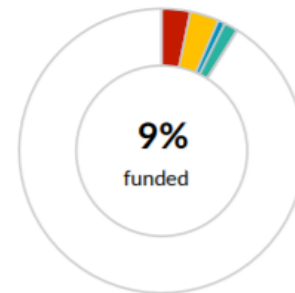


Total **refugees and asylum-seekers** in Uganda as of 31 January 2020

*These include refugees from *Somalia, Rwanda, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Sudan and other countries of origin.*

UNHCR's Financial Requirements 2020: USD 331.2M

UNHCR Funding (as of 31 January 2020)



Unfunded 91% - **302M**

Funded 9% - **29M**

UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff:

462 National Staff
116 International Staff
08 IUNV
02 NUNV
38 National UNOPS
05 International UNOPS

Offices:

One Representation Office in Kampala

Five Sub Offices in Arua, Mbarara, Moyo, Pakelle and Yumbe

Six Field Units in Kiryandongo, Kyaka II, Kyangwali, Lamwo, Nakivale, and Rwamwanja.



A creatively constructed house by a refugee in Rwamwanja refugee settlement, Kamwenge district.
Photo ©UNHCR/Duniya Aslam Khan



Refugees and Asylum-Seekers in Uganda

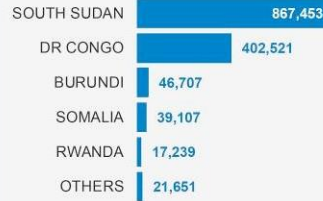
Uganda Refugee Response

31 January 2020

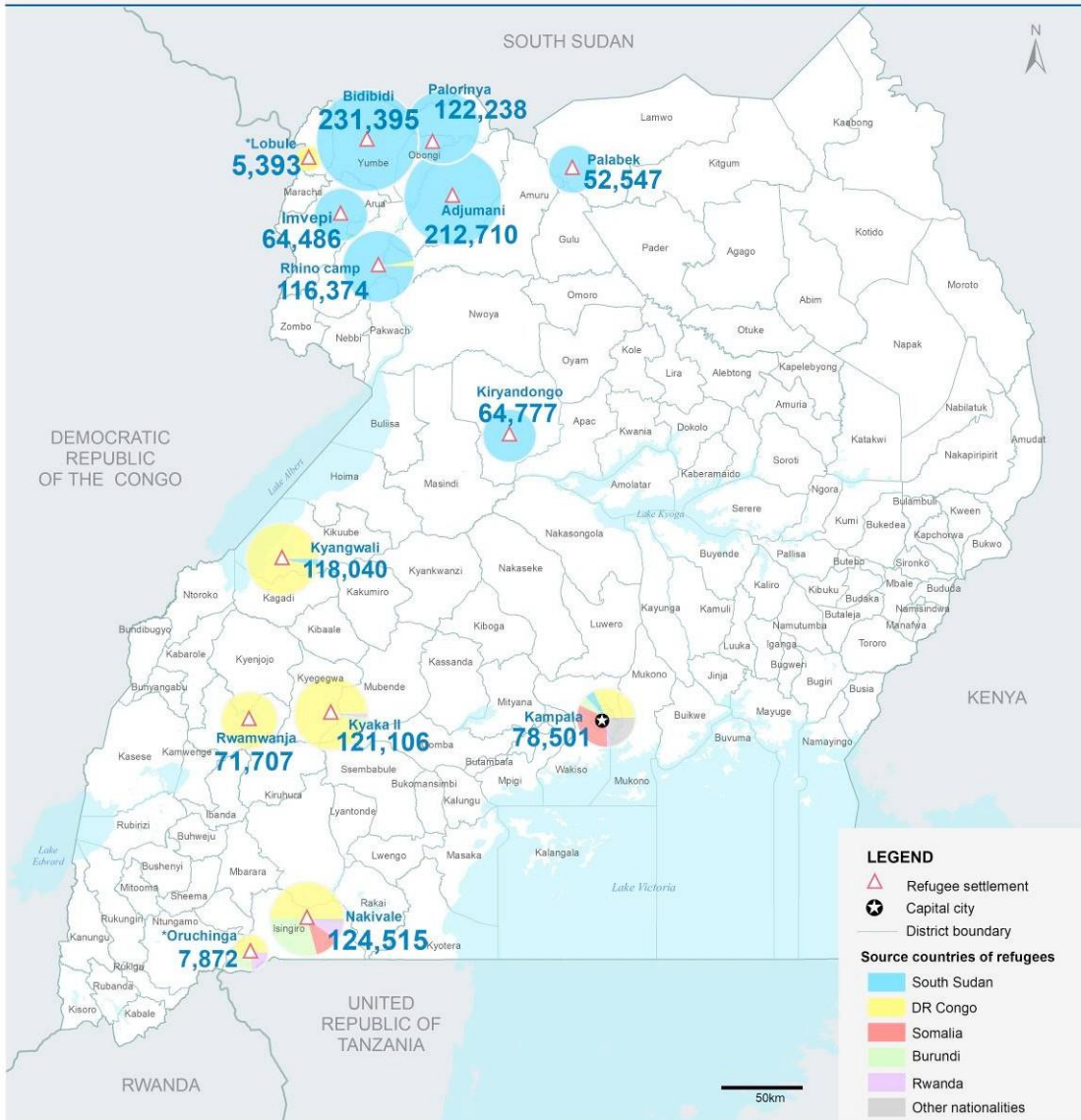
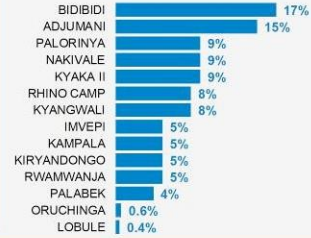
Total refugees and asylum-seekers**

1,394,678

Countries of origin



Refugees per settlement



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

*Oruchinga and Lobule symbols not to scale. **Includes 3,017 refugees and asylum seekers in reception centres which are not shown on the map

Population data: proGres (OPM) Author: UNHCR Representation in Uganda Feedback: ugakaimug@unhcr.org For more info, please visit: www.ugandarefugees.org

Uganda has 13 refugees hosting districts (Adjumani, Arua, Isingiro, Kampala, Kamwenge, Kikuube, Kiryandongo, Kyegegwa, Koboko, Lamwo, Madi-Okollo, Obongi and Yumbe).

The refugees are hosted in 13 settlements (Adjumani¹, Bidibidi, Imvepi, Kiryandongo, Kyaka II, Kyangwali, Lobule, Nakivale, Oruchinga, Palabek, Parlorinya, Rhino Camp, Rwamwanja) plus the urban refugees in Kampala.

¹ Adjumani is made up of 18 settlements

Main Activities

Implementation of the Global Compact on Refugees and its Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF)

- The Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) is in its fourth year of implementation in Uganda. This builds on considerable progress made since 2017, when the Government of Uganda launched this multi-stakeholder and partnership approach to the refugee response. The Ugandan approach promotes self-reliance for refugees and measures to ease the pressure on refugee-hosting districts. The National Plan of Action to implement the Global Compact on Refugees and its CRRF, define the milestones to be reached until the end of 2020.
- An important element of the CRRF in Uganda is inclusion of refugees in national planning and local development. In order to ease pressure on refugee-hosting districts and to enhance service delivery for both refugees and host communities, comprehensive sectoral plans have been formulated which link the refugee response to government sector plans. The plans also enable Uganda to clearly highlight where the international community may usefully channel support for a comprehensive and people-centred response in its refugee hosting districts. UNHCR has aligned its strategies with these comprehensive plans and supports the coordination structures for CRRF implementations, such as the Secretariat for the Education Response Plan for (ERP) and the CRRF Secretariat in OPM which provides services for the CRRF Steering Group.
- Whereas refugees had already been included in the National Development Plan II (2016 – 2020) through the Settlement Transformative Agenda (STA), they are mainstreamed across sectors in planning and statistical products within NDP III, which will enter into effect on 01 July 2020. Refugee-hosting districts will now include refugees in their planning for the next five years. UNHCR is working closely with the refugee-hosting districts to provide analysis on refugees in the settlements and support the planning processes for these District Development Plans (DDPs).
- UNHCR continues to foster a multi-stakeholder and partnership approach and to strengthen its convening role aimed at mobilizing and coordinating support, particularly regarding economic and social inclusion. Close collaboration with development partners has allowed for the handover of activities, which were previously funded by UNHCR, such as Refugee and Host Population Empowerment (ReHope) projects and livelihoods. Development partners have also extended services for water and environment, allowing UNHCR to play a more catalytic and coordination role.

Protection

- UNHCR works with the Government of Uganda to provide effective protection for refugees and asylum-seekers in Uganda. Uganda's vision, as articulated in the 2016-2020 Multiyear Multi Partner Protection and Solutions Strategy (MYMPSS), is to ensure that, through Uganda's CRRF, refugees are protected by the Government, live in safety and dignity with host communities, and progressively attain lasting solutions. The aim is to transition emergency response into sustainable solutions and government-led actions in refugee-hosting districts.

The strategic objectives under the MYMPSS are as follows:

1. Uganda's asylum space is maintained, unhindered access to territory is preserved and government's emergency preparedness and response capacity is progressively strengthened.

2. Promoting the full enjoyment of rights and international protection standards throughout the displacement cycle.
3. Progressively attain inclusion and self-reliance of refugees and host communities through development of individual capacities and the promotion of a conducive environment for livelihoods opportunities.
4. Provision of integrated basic social services, including health, education, child protection and WASH, provided by national authorities in refugee hosting districts.
5. Improved opportunities for durable solutions, either for refugees to return voluntarily to their countries of origin; have found 3rd Country Solutions or have attained enough socio-economic empowerment, including ability to exercise their full range of rights to integrate locally in Uganda.

Durable Solutions

- UNHCR facilitates voluntary repatriation when conditions in the country of origin have improved. On a limited basis, it also facilitates resettlement whereby a refugee or a refugee family leaves the country of asylum and legally settles in third country. UNHCR is currently working together with the Government of Uganda on creative legal solutions for long-staying refugees that are unwilling or unable to return home. In the current circumstance, UNHCR is not promoting voluntary repatriation to any of the countries of origin.
- Resettlement and third country admissions are part of solutions for refugees and plays an integral role in the Ugandan national plan of action on the implementation the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) and its Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) in Uganda. Resettlement from Uganda is a tangible demonstration of solidarity to a host country, which has maintained its generous asylum policy, while responding to multiple emergencies.
- UNHCR supports third country admissions such as private sponsorship, student visas, and family reunifications schemes. Canada, Ireland and United States of America (USA), have offered complementary pathways for refugees in Uganda. UNHCR continues to advocate for an increase in the number of refugees who will benefit from these admissions.

Education

- UNHCR provides service delivery to refugees and supports strengthening of Government systems. Together with NGO partners, UNHCR provides education services in over 250 settlement schools at primary and secondary level, supporting 274,755 children to access education.
- UNCHR and UNICEF lead in the area of 'system strengthening', together with the Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES). In addition to setting up of a Kampala office, UNHCR procured items such as motorbikes, office furniture and ICT equipment to support the work of MoES at district level. This donation will help government education personnel collect data and inspect schools in all refugee-hosting districts. UNHCR also continues to support district level engagement for the development of district costing models and prioritisation of needs and activities. District level plans will ensure greater ownership and engagement of the Education Response Plan and a more targeted approach to needs and gaps.
- Education remains a key priority for UNHCR in Uganda given that, 51percent of the refugee population is school-age children (aged 3-17),. Education also key as a protection and solutions tool. At the end of the 2019 academic year (December 2019), 76 percent (254,442) of refugee children were enrolled in UNHCR supported primary schools and 11 percent (20,313) were enrolled in secondary schools within the settlements. Compared to 2018, this is an increase of 10,258 pupils and 2,775 students in primary and secondary schools respectively

Health

- The Uganda refugee operation has a total of 2,221 health workers across all settlements of which, 41 are medical doctors. Consultation per clinicians per day is at 58 against the standard of 50. Refugees access health services from 100 health facilities in the settlements, with district hospitals, regional referral hospitals and Mulago National Referral Hospital, acting as referral points for the secondary and tertiary health care. Disease prevention activities are continuously carried out to minimize the number of outbreaks such as measles, watery diarrhea and cholera in the operation.
- A total of 17,996 patients are currently receiving HIV care and treatment in the facilities within the settlements, of which 38 percent (6,857) are refugees. Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission (PMTCT) services are provided to the refugees and host population, as a measure of preventing the spread of HIV to from positive mothers to the babies.
- Under maternal and child health care, maternal mortality rate is at 172 deaths per 100,000 live births. Under 5 mortality rate is at 0.2 deaths per 1,000 live births. Health facilities in the settlements of Rwamwanja and Kyangwali have been supported with theaters and theater equipment to support the Emergency obstetric care.
- UNHCR and partners are promoting implementation of the Health Sector Refugee Response Plan (HSRRP) to refugee hosting districts. Now in its second year of implementation, the HSRRP has seen integration of Health Information Systems into the National Health Management Information Systems. In addition, over 70 percent of the health facilities have been accredited and coded into the national system.

Food Security and Nutrition

- UNHCR, through her partners and with support of District Local Governments (DLGs), UNICEF, and the World Food Programme (WFP), continues to treat persons of concern that are detected with acute malnutrition in all settlements. The interventions are complemented with preventive approaches aimed to promote, protect, and support optimal feeding practices for all refugees. The interventions mostly target infants, children, Pregnant and Lactating Women (PLWs), adolescents and the elderly, because they are the most vulnerable. Activities include; cooking demonstrations, nutrition education, demonstration gardens, counselling, sensitization, as well as Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF). In order to improve access and uptake of health services as well as combat stunting, WFP, through her partners, continues to provide Maternal Child Health and Nutrition services (MCHN) to children and PLWs.
- With support from UNHCR and OPM, the World Food Programme (WFP) continues to provide food assistance to about 1.4 million refugees in Uganda, delivered as in-kind and cash. Distribution of General Food Assistance is implemented using the New Food Assistance Collection Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), that employ Global Distribution Tool (GDT) and Biometric Identity Management System (BIMS), to biometrically verify the identity of refugees.
- UNHCR partners continue to screen and detect acute malnutrition among new arrivals at the points of entry, transit and reception centers, then linking them to care in settlements. Once settled, refugees access primary health care at health centers within the settlement.

Water and Sanitation

- UNHCR and partners continue to provide water, sanitation and hygiene services to refugee and host communities. Generally, service provision is evolving from emergency to medium and long-term WASH infrastructure development. This includes improving performance of piped solar systems to decrease usage of generators and hence contributing to decreasing the carbon footprint. Linkages with local government and line ministries are strengthened and significant

progress has been made in engaging refugees to participate in service delivery, thus promoting ownership.

- On average, almost 20 million litres of potable water are supplied daily to refugees living in the settlements, ensuring a per capita access of about 17.1 litres per person per day. Between January and December 2019, thirty water schemes were completed, contributing to increase the percentage of water supplied through sustainable systems to 98.7 Over 19,017 latrines were constructed at household level, leading to a coverage of 62 percent.
- The Water and Environment Refugee Response Plan (WERRP) was finalized and approved by the CRRF Steering group. The National Water and Sewerage Corporation (NWSC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with UNHCR, to take over management of water supply in Rwamwanja settlement. A draft roadmap on inclusion into government systems was drafted ready for discussion with sector stakeholders.

Shelter, Settlements and NFIs

- UNHCR provides a technical support role to OPM, Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development (MoLHUD) and District Local Governments (DLGs), with the physical planning and land optimisation of refugee settlements. In 2019, the Refugee Settlement Land Taskforce (RSLT), surveyed and demarcated 7,744 shelter plots (12m x 20m each) out of the targeted 10,000.
- The UNHCR Non-Food Items (NFIs) Distribution Entitlement Scale has undergone an official revision, as the emergency shelter kit component was tested within the operation. Most proposals included increase in number of NFIs such as poles go hand in hand with increased budget when available. In future, where market access is possible, some NFIs will be monetised.
- The tracking of NFI distributions using proGres V4 is being rolled out for the regular replenishment of soap and hygiene kit distributions to existing stabilised refugees in settlements, where feasible. This will enable a more accurate recording of items delivered to beneficiaries and inform the monthly reconciliation reports that UNHCR and partners are producing per sub office.
- In order to enable refugee beneficiaries to have a strong voice in the design of their own homes, the inter-agency Shelter, Settlement and Non-Food Items Working Group (SSNFI WG) moved away from producing strict design drawings and bills of quantities as minimum standards for semi-permanent shelter. Instead, the Working Group is aiming for a 'self-help' model, in which shelter actors provide material/financial and technical support. This will help to either facilitate extremely vulnerable households to construct their own homes or, facilitate qualified external labour to construct homes for non-abled vulnerable households.

Energy and Environment

- OPM and partners declared environmental protection and restoration a major priority and key humanitarian-development nexus issue in the Uganda Refugee Response. Partners, including each refugee-hosting District Local Government, are supporting implementation and joint monitoring of environment sensitisation campaigns. These include catchment management; wetland demarcation and restoration; tree-marking; tree nursery operations; tree growing and maintenance; as well as green livelihoods. Beekeeping, farmer-managed natural regeneration, agroforestry, value-addition of non-wood forest products like shea nuts and fruits are among the green livelihoods' activities.
- In 2019, the Ministry of Water and Environment formed a Refugee Response Sub-Group to steer the development of a sector-wide response plan, which will guide a longer-term development approach to the response. The National Forestry Authority also joined the response and is currently restoring 422 hectares in 3 Central Forest Reserves adjacent to

refugee settlements, including three new bamboo plantations. In addition, it is supporting the scale-up of regional nurseries to produce over 5 million assorted species of seedlings to refugee and host communities by the end of 2020. A strong emphasis is being placed on tree survival after planting, by using a community demand driven approach to species selection and cash for work approach for planting and maintenance.

- Efforts are being made to increase access to income-generating activities by rural and urban refugees, through skills training. They are trained in activities such as the construction of energy-saving stoves; heat-retaining cooking baskets; and briquette production, which has the twin benefit of waste-recycling and providing alternative fuel. All reception centres now have access to energy-efficient institutional stoves, in order to reduce demand for firewood in cooking hot meals for the thousands of new arrivals each year. In schools, bio-digesters and institutional stoves are being installed, and over 100 eco-clubs are being supported across the response. As of December 2019, over 428,572 energy saving stoves were accessed by refugee and host community households. This is in addition to the 40 percent of refugee households already using these stoves.

Logistics

- UNHCR works with partners to ensure transportation of non-food items to the various sites is coordinated. It also works with relevant partners to ensure transportation support for newly arrived refugees and assisted spontaneous returns.

Working in partnership with:

Government - Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), District Local Government (DLG), Ministry of Agriculture Animal, Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF), Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES), Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development (MEMD), Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development (MGLSD), Ministry of Health (MoH), Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE), Ministry of Trade Industry and Cooperatives (MTIC),

Refugee Hosting Districts – Adjumani, Arua, Isingiro, Kampala, Kamwenge, Kikuube, Kiryandongo, Koboko, Kyegegwa, Lamwo, Moyo, Yumbe.

UN - United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UNWOMEN), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Migration Agency (IOM), United Nations Officer for Project Services (UNOPS), United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA), United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), United Nations World Health Organization (WHO).

NGOs - Action Africa Help (AAH), Action Against Hunger (ACF), Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA), African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD), African Medical and Research Foundation (AMREF), African Women and Youth Action for Development (AWYAD), Agency for Accelerated Regional Development (AFARD), Agency for Cooperation and Research in Development (ACORD), Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED), American Refugee Committee (ARC), Andre Foods International (AFI), Association for Aid and Relief Japan (AARJ), Association of Volunteers in International Service (AVSI), Associazione Centro Aiuti Volontari (ACAV), A-Z Children’s Charity, Baylor, Building Resources Across Communities (BRAC), Belgian Development Agency (ENABEL), CARE, Care and Assistance for Forced Migrants (CAFOMI), Caritas Uganda (CU), Catholic Organisation for Relief and Development Aid (CORDAID), Catholic Relief Service (CRS), Child Voices International, Communication and Education (PACE), Community Empowerment for Rural Development (CEFORD), Community Technology Empowerment Network (CTEN), Concern World Wide (CWW), Cooperazione Sviluppo (CESVI), DanChurchAid (DCA), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Doctors with Africa (CUAMM), Drop in the Basket (DiB), Finn Church Aid (FCA), Finnish Refugee Council (FRC), Food for the Hungry (FH), Friends of Kisoro, German International Cooperation (GiZ), Give Directly, Global Aim, Global Refugee International (GRI), Healing Kadi Foundation, Help Age International, Humane Africa Mission (HAM), Humanitarian Assistance and Development Services (HADS), Humanitarian Initiative Just Relief Aid (HIJRA), Humanitarian Open Street Map Team (HOT), Humanity & Inclusion (HI), IMPACT, Infectious Disease Institute (IDI), InterAid, Inter-church Organization for Development Cooperation (ICCO Cooperation), International Aid Services (IAS), International Center for Research in Agro Forestry (ICRAF), International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), International Rescue Committee (IRC), IsraAid, Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS), Johanniter, Kabarole Research and Resource Centre (KRC), Lutheran World Federation (LWF), Lutheran World Relief (LWR), Malteser International (MI), Medical Teams International (MTI), Mercy Corps (MC), Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Nsamizi Training Institute of Social Development (NSAMIZI), OXFAM, Peace Winds Japan (PWJ), Peter C. Alderman Foundation (PCAF), Plan International (PI), Programme for Accessible health, Real Medicine Foundation (RMF), Regional Health Integration to Enhance Services in Eastern Uganda (RHITES), Reproductive Health Uganda (RHU), Right to Play (RtP), Rural Initiative for Community Empowerment in West Nile (RICE-WN), Salvation Army, Samaritan’s Purse (SP), Save the Children International (SCI), Self Help Africa (SHA), The Uganda National Apiculture Development Organization (Tunado), Transcultural Psychosocial Organization (TPO), Trocaire, Tutapona Trauma Rehabilitation (TTR), Uganda Law Society (ULS), Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS), Uganda Refugee Disaster and Management Council (URDMC), War Child Canada (WCC), War Child Holland (WCH), Water Mission Uganda (WMU), Welthungerhilfe (WHH), Windle International Uganda (WIU), World Vision International (WVI), Young Women’s Christian Association (YWCA), ZOA – Uganda (ZOA).

External Relations

Thank you to donors for providing generous un-earmarked and earmarked contributions to UNHCR Uganda in 2020

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