

Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework

UGANDA

Terms of Reference

Secretariat for the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework in Uganda

Purpose

The Secretariat for the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) in Uganda, under the leadership of the Government of Uganda, will be aligned with Government structures and will promote and support a more robust and coherent refugee response in the country, inclusive of key stakeholders. The Secretariat will support coordinated programming and resourcing for a comprehensive refugee response. It will provide technical and analytical support to enable evidence-based decision-making and will recommend courses of action to the CRRF Steering Group, which in turn will guide and task the Secretariat.

The Secretariat will pursue coherence among various components of the CRRF and engage with structures that are already in place (including nationally-led frameworks and initiatives such as the Settlement Transformative Agenda (STA) and the Refugee and Host Population Empowerment (ReHoPE) initiative as well as the emergency response for refugees co-led by OPM and UNHCR, to ensure a more robust comprehensive response in the refugee hosting districts. These districts will be the focus for the operational implementation of a comprehensive refugee response, in close alignment with District Development Plans (DDPs).

The Secretariat will also be the knowledge and information hub on matters relating to the overall application of CRRF in Uganda, and the follow up on the Uganda Solidarity Summit on Refugees of June 2017.

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 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, a comprehensive refugee response 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 Secretariat will play a technical role in supporting these five themes to ensure an even more robust and comprehensive response to the needs of refugees and host communities.

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During the Uganda Solidarity Summit on Refugees held in June 2017, the Government of Uganda 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.

In Uganda, multi-stakeholder support to the refugee response has already been mobilized through the UNHCR Refugee Coordination Model and the regional Refugee Response Plans, as well as through the ReHoPE strategy. ReHoPE is designed to serve both refugees and host communities through an area based approach in refugee hosting districts. As such ReHoPE will serve as one of the key building blocks for engaging development actors, primarily in terms of resilience and self-reliance, and addressing the humanitarian-development nexus. A UN multi-donor trust fund is being established as a mechanism to contribute additional funds to priorities particularly in this area, in line with the objectives of the New Way of Working initiative.

Tasks

Detailed functions and deliverables include:

1. Support to planning and monitoring of comprehensive refugee response.

Based on strategic guidance from the Steering Group and in close consultation with stakeholders, develop a road map and monitor and track progress.

- Articulate and annually review the short and longer-term objectives for the CRRF in Uganda
- Identify areas of priority response and develop a CRRF road map for Uganda (to be validated by the Steering Group), based on consultations with refugees and host communities and the draft road map proposed at the multi-stakeholder CRRF workshop in June 2017
- Informed by the indicators for progress identified for the CRRF globally, develop indicators and baselines to measure progress on CRRF in Uganda
- Track progress by liaising with relevant existing coordination structures, platforms and bodies, and report to the Steering Group regularly.

2. Analytical work in support of implementation of a comprehensive refugee response.

- Propose and consolidate analytical work (such as sector and district gap analysis) to be undertaken by CRRF stakeholders, based on comparative advantages and expertise
- Review and recommend how refugee data and statistics can be better analysed and shared for a more effective response by both development and humanitarian actors, with an impact on all themes of the CRRF; review how to better collect, manage and share host population data and statistics
- Analyse issues related to awareness of refugee rights and propose measures to address the gaps identified

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- Based on UNHCR and OPM Department of Refugees review of roles and responsibilities (in line with the Refugee Coordination Model, the 2006 Refugee Act and the 2010 Regulations); propose areas where DLGs and development actors need to engage earlier for sustainability
- Support the development of planning guidelines for districts, including STA planning, and identify capacity building needs of line ministries and district local governments
- Advise on coherence between STA and ReHoPE programming and other refugee-related programming and promote coherence and complementarity of approaches with key stakeholder groups.
- Gather and analyse learning from previous skilling experience in Uganda and in Northern Uganda and for women and youth in particular and provide recommendations to stakeholders.

3. Knowledge management in support of the implementation of a comprehensive refugee response, in close consultation with stakeholders

- Aligning with existing mechanisms and platforms, create an online depository of relevant strategies, assessments and reports relating to the various themes of the CRRF
- Document and disseminate best practices in Uganda for each of the CRRF themes
- Document lessons learned to inform the global CRRF implementation and the development of a Global Compact for Refugees (September 2018)
- Introduce relevant learning, tools and practices from regional or global level for consideration in the Ugandan context.

4. Support the established mechanism (under Ministry of Finance) to track resources available for a comprehensive refugee response in Uganda, and assisted in the monitoring and tracking of progress, in close consultation with stakeholders

- Regularly review the requirements for a comprehensive refugee response in Uganda and recommend revisions or further analysis needed
- Map and track resources available for refugee hosting districts and the refugee response, including keeping records of, and follow up on pledges made in relation to the Uganda Solidarity Summit on Refugees held in June 2017.
- Should a multi-donor trust fund to support the refugee response be established, the MDTF secretariat will be hosted by the CRRF secretariat to avoid the creation of parallel structures. The administrative and organisational arrangements for a potential trust fund will follow established UN guidelines for such a fund. The CRRF Secretariat will support the coordination of the refugee response by advising on priority needs and gaps to avoid a duplication of efforts

5. Advise on needed advocacy, engagement and information-sharing in support of the implementation of a comprehensive refugee response

- Develop a stakeholder engagement strategy for 2017, including refugees and host communities, particularly women and youth; to be updated on an annual basis and submitted to the Steering Group for endorsement
- Advise on the needed support for the refugee hosting districts from existing development programmes, multilateral banks, academia, civil society, refugee interest groups and from private sector and identify and document synergies with programming undertaken by these stakeholders.

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6. Support to the CRRF Steering Group

- Provide technical advice and recommendations to the Steering Group on CRRF implementation, and undertake any tasks assigned by the Steering Group.

Leadership, Membership, Coordination and Reporting

The Secretariat will support the Steering Group in contributing to the Comprehensive Refugee Response, which will inform the Global Compact (scheduled to be adopted by the UN General Assembly in September 2018). The purpose, activities and operational arrangements for the Steering Group beyond 2018 shall be reviewed by the Steering Group.

The Secretariat will be located in the Office of the Prime Minister and will be led by a Head of Secretariat. The Secretariat shall develop and maintain an active work plan and submit this to the CRRF Steering Group for endorsement. The Secretariat will further report to the Steering Group through regular technical reports and recommendations.

The Secretariat will aim to include senior technical staff, through a multi-partnership approach, to support the agreed objectives of the work plan. The Secretariat may also solicit or accept offers of analytical or technical support from other actors. UNHCR will provide support on various technical and administrative aspects of the Secretariat's work, as well as time-bound resourcing of some key posts and functions. Contributions from other partners to the refugee response are welcome. Should a UN multi-donor trust fund (MDTF) be established to support the refugee response in Uganda, the MDTF secretariat unit will be part of the CRRF Secretariat, supported by UNHCR and the Office of the Resident Coordinator.

The Secretariat will closely liaise with the various coordination fora for development and humanitarian action at both national and district level to ensure effective and appropriate information-sharing and to avoid duplication in current or planned activities. The Secretariat shall request updates from such fora in relation to a comprehensive refugee response.

Adopted by the CRRF Steering Group in Kampala on 12 October 2017