



# UNHCR Uganda

## Nyakabande TC Fact Sheet | 2014

### Population

161 (as of May 18<sup>th</sup> 2014)

### Size

35 acres / 0.15 square miles

### Location

5km from Kisoro town and 18 Kilometers from Bunagana border in Kisoro district, South West Uganda.

### Administration

OPM TC Commandant: Ms Pauline Abbina  
UNHCR Field Unit Kisoro Team Leader: Mr Jimmy Ogwang, Field Associate. The field unit comprises of 6 staff.

### Working in partnership

The UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) works with the Government of Uganda, through OPM, other UN agencies, NGOs and civil society in providing protection and support to people of concern. The Government of Uganda (OPM) ensures the security of all refugees.

### Implementing Partners for 2014

**Transit Centre management, Coordination, and Security:** Office of the Prime Minister (OPM)

**Protection/ Community Services:** Humanitarian Initiative Just Relief Aid (HIJRA)

**Shelter/ NFI:** HIJIRA

**Health/Nutrition:** Medical Teams International (MTI)

**Water/ Sanitation:** Humanitarian Initiative Just Relief Aid (HIJRA)

**Logistics:** African Initiative for Relief Development (AIRD)

### Operational Partners for 2014

**GBV:** UNFPA/ ACORD

**Child Protection/Tracing:** Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) supported by ICRC

**Child Protection:** Save the Children / UNICEF

**Food:** World Food Programme (WFP)

**Health:** WHO

### Did you know?

Nyakabande has acted as a transit centre for both returning and arriving refugees since it opening in 1994 for Rwandans fleeing the genocide.



Nyakabande transit centre was officially re-opened in February 2012 to deal with the current Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) arrivals with a capacity of 500 individuals. Its maximum potential capacity is now 30,000. Refugees arriving at the TC (unless they have been involved directly in fighting or do not qualify for asylum for other reasons) are granted *prima facie* refugee status by the Government of Uganda.

The security situation in eastern DRC has been volatile since July 2011 causing refugees to cross into Uganda at a regular rate. However, fresh fighting in April 2012 between break-away militia the M-23 and the DRC government forces (FARDC) as well as activities of other local armed groups such as the Mai Mai and Nyatura rebel groups has uprooted thousands of people. In October-November 2013 renewed clashed between M23 and FARDC which resulted in the 'surrender' of M23 caused around 10,000 people to flee to Nyakabande in just over 1 week.

Most refugees have come from the areas of Masisi, Rutshuru, Binza, Kiwanja, Gisigari and Jomba.

### 2013 Highlights

- A total of 31,280 new arrivals were received at the transit centre with 14,897 of these relocated to more permanent settlements within Uganda.
- 1,080 asylum seekers were registered at the TC of which 732 were granted refugee status.
- A second water distribution line was installed from Kisoro town to the transit centre; increasing the volume of water supplied at the TC.
- 20 new permanent drainable pit latrines were constructed
- 2,113 people with specific needs such as the elderly, disabled and unaccompanied children were identified and supported.

## Sectoral highlights

**Coordination:** At the inception of Nyakabande in 2012, UNHCR was directly implementing all sectors in close collaboration with the Office of the Prime Minister with support from Kisoro district local government and Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) volunteers. Since May 2012, UNHCR and OPM have been playing the lead role in coordinating the humanitarian response of the partners for the emergency operation in Kisoro.

**Protection:** UNHCR, through OPM, facilitates the Police to provide physical security and crowd control at the transit centre. The registration activities are conducted in 2 stages – first at household level which allows families to access basic household items and cooked food and then at individual level by OPM which allows families to prepare their move to the settlement for longer term support. Child protection activities at the transit centre include recreational activities and support of separated and unaccompanied children. Tracing to re-unite families as well as free phone services is also conducted by URCS/ ICRC. In 2013 a total of 325 GBV cases were reported of which 93% happened within the DRC and 214 (66%) were rape cases.

**Community Services:** Psychosocial counselling, medical referral and follow-up support are provided for people who have experienced sexual and physical abuse. People with specific needs (PSNs) such as the elderly, pregnant women and children are supported with separate shelter and non-food items as well as assistance getting food.

**Food:** Three hot meals are provided a day. These include porridge from CSB and maize meal and early dinner composed of peas, oil and maize-meal totaling 2,100 Kilo-calories per person per day. Firewood and related kitchen support are provided to the refugee community who organize the cooking.

**Non-food items (NFI):** New arrivals are provided with NFIs including sleeping mats, blankets, laundry soap, cups and plates. Jerry cans, tents and basins are dispensed on a communal basis. Women and girls aged between 12 and 49 years also receive a sanitary package comprising of knickers and pads.

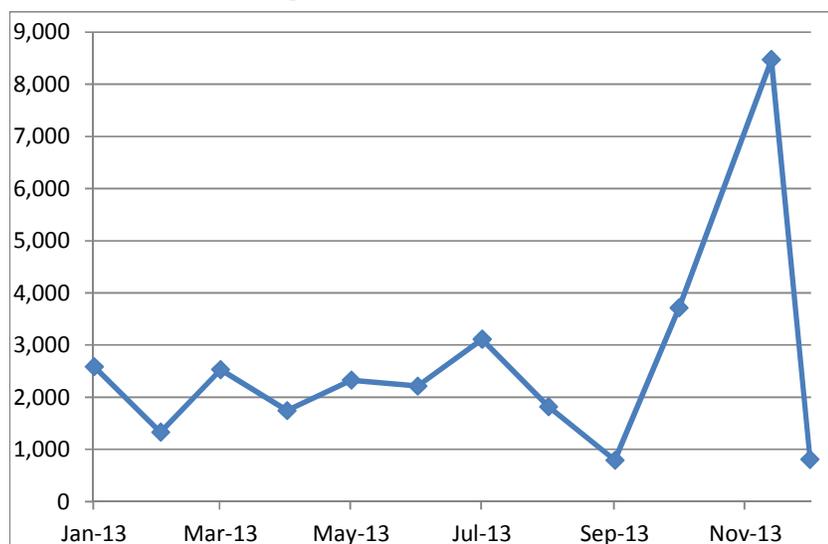
**Shelter:** There are family tents (housing a maximum of 10 people) and communal shelters (250 people). Support structures in place include 2 kitchens, 2 stores, and 4 admin and reception facilities.

**Health:** Primary health care, antenatal, reproductive health, immunization, and malnutrition management services are all provided along with health education and outreach programmes. HIV/AIDS Voluntary Counselling and Testing (VCT) is also carried out at the transit centre. Medical referrals with consultancies are handled at the upgraded Nyakabande health centre II, while complicated medical cases are referred to Kisoro District Hospital. The centre provides services to both refugees (35%) and nationals (65%) with an average of 80 patients seen per day. The most common health problems are respiratory tract infections, watery diarrhoea and eye/skin infections.

**Water & Sanitation:** The TC is connected to the town water pipeline. However, water pressure in the district generally is low. The transit centre has a water storage capacity of 80,000 litres. WASH facilities at the transit centre include temporary toilet-mobilets, hand washing facilities, bath shelter stances and 8 water tanks of 10,000 litres capacity fitted with 52 tap stands. There are 131 stances of pit latrine and 109 bath shelters at the transit Centre. To strengthen hygiene and sanitation, treatment of water with chlorine and disinfection of mobilets and refuse pits is done daily, while communal sensitization on personal hygiene is also carried out daily.

**Transfers to settlement:** Relocation convoys are organized bi-weekly of 500-800 individuals. Over 46,000 refugees have been relocated from Nyakabande since January 2012 – 28 February 2014. The majority (around 94%) were relocated to Rwamwanja settlement, which was reopened in April 2012 to deal with the influx.

**Refugee influx 2013**



2012 arrivals	52,596
Jan-13	2,585
Feb-13	1,331
Mar-13	2,527
Apr-13	1,745
May-13	2,327
Jun-13	2,217
Jul-13	3,113
Aug-13	1,820
Sep-13	793
Oct-13	3,719
Nov-13	8,474
Dec-13	812
<b>2013 TOTAL</b>	<b>30,426</b>
<b>2012+2013 TOTAL</b>	<b>83,022</b>

**Contact Information:**

Lucy Beck, Associate External Relations Officer, UNHCR Sub Office Mbarara  
Tel: +256 (0) 783150047 ■ e-mail: [beckl@unhcr.org](mailto:beckl@unhcr.org)