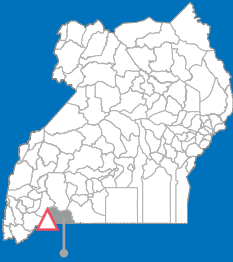




Western Region
Isingiro District



Oruchinga

Total refugee population:
6,932 registered refugees
34 pending registration

With **476,955** nationals in Isingiro District, refugees in Oruchinga account for **1.4%** of the district population.

Settlement first established: 1961

Registered refugee population

| Female | Age | Male |
|--------|-------|-------|
| 589 | 0-4 | 614 |
| 837 | 5-11 | 878 |
| 541 | 12-17 | 529 |
| 1,486 | 18-59 | 1,285 |
| 92 | 60+ | 81 |

Data collected through¹:

- 6** beneficiary focus group discussions
- 2** key informant interviews
- 10** partner interviews
- 3** sector lead interviews

Oruchinga settlement, opened as a transit center in 1959 and was officially established as a settlement in 1961, hosts more than 6,900 refugees from Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Rwanda. The settlement is not receiving new arrivals, aside from family reunifications, referrals, and protection cases. Although shelter and infrastructure are developed, and the refugees seem to be well integrated with the host community, protection concerns and conflict over land and resources remain a challenge.

Gaps & Challenges

Overcrowded schools with few teachers, steep fees for secondary school, and inadequate facilities reportedly lead **many children and youth to drop out of school**. Refugees reported that many schools lack enough basic items such as desks, chairs, and school materials. Other challenges to education include long distances to school locations and language barriers between pupils and teachers.

Refugees reported **instances of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and other violence**, with inadequate assistance. Refugees reported feeling afraid and threatened, especially while collecting firewood in neighboring communities. Young girls, pregnant or single mothers, and orphans are particularly vulnerable groups in terms of security.

Weak local economies and lack of vocational training **limit livelihoods opportunities for refugees**. Some refugees used to attend vocational training in Nakivale, but the program was discontinued in 2017. Many resort to performing manual labor for members of the host community, but seek to develop skills outside of traditional agricultural activities. For the elderly and refugees with special needs, options to earn an income are even more limited because of their incapacity to farm.

Lack of access to sizable farming plots and agricultural inputs, coupled with inconsistent and insufficient food distribution, compromises refugees' access to food. The increase in refugees across Uganda and breakages in the food pipeline decreased the amount of food available for refugees in Oruchinga. When refugees can afford seeds to cultivate, droughts often ruin their harvest. Delayed distributions leave families without food for weeks. Refugees, especially women, reportedly beg from the host community when food runs out or resort to negative coping mechanisms, including survival sex in order to be able to feed their children.

Medical services in health centers in the settlement are limited, lacking sufficient medication and comprehensive emergency and maternal health services. When health center pharmacies run out of stocks— provided by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), MTI, and national medical stores— refugees struggle to afford private clinics to purchase necessary medication and often resort to medicinal herbs and traditional remedies.

Strengths & Opportunities

Refugee communities are led by established, experienced, and organized leadership councils at the village and local level, creating a positive relationship among community members, UNHCR, and Uganda's Office of the Prime Minister (OPM).

Partners coordinate and cooperate closely to meet the needs of the refugees. There is close monitoring of service delivery to ensure that issues are addressed as they arise.

There is a strong desire among refugees to develop skills in order to improve livelihood. The community expressed enthusiasm about any type of adult literacy program, vocational skills development, or innovative agricultural training. In the past, community members and partners developed alternatives to farming. For example, during seasons of drought, refugees participated in beekeeping and fish harvesting to deal with poor farming conditions.

1. Indicator standards to measure gaps were determined by recognized humanitarian standards, Ugandan national standards, or by sector experts for each settlement.

Partner organizations

AIRD, ARC, CAFOMI, HIJRA, MTI, Nsamizi, RLP, SP, WFP, WTI, URCS, UNHCR



Protection

4 partners: ARC, CAFOMI, UNHCR, URCS

34¹
new arrivals reported in the past three months still need biometric registration and identification



0
new arrivals reported in the past three months have received biometric registration and identification

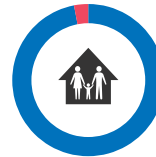
212
live births reported in the past three months have yet to receive official documentation



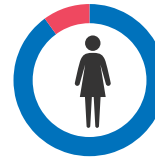
0
live births reported in the past three months have received official documentation

Sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV)

14
SGBV cases reported in the past three months, with those receiving support in:



26
community-based committees or groups working on SGBV prevention and response
1
additional community-based group needed



1,750
reproductive-age women provided with dignity kits

205
reproductive-age women eligible for dignity kits did not receive them

Persons with specific needs (PSNs)

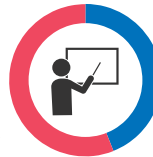
45
disabled PSNs have received services for their specific needs



83
elderly PSNs have received services for their specific needs

Child protection

605
adolescents not reached through targeted trainings or programming



465
adolescents reached through targeted trainings or programming

34
community-based committees or groups working on child protection



5
child friendly spaces needed



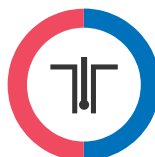
Water, sanitation and hygiene

2 partners: AIRD, HIJRA

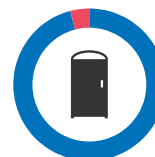
0.9
additional litres of water per person per day (w/p/d) required
19.1
litres of w/p/d provided



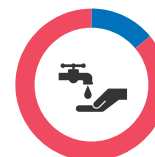
3%
of water needs met through water trucking



2
motorized boreholes operational or planned
2
additional motorized boreholes needed



1,678
household latrines completed
77
additional household latrines needed

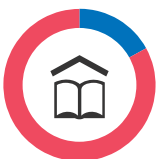


2
active hygiene promoters
12
additional hygiene promoters needed

Education

1 partner: WTI

13
permanent classrooms constructed



65
additional classrooms needed

2,326
refugees are attending school in or around the settlement, with gross enrolment rates:

922 (44%)
refugees aged 3-5
519 (56%)
refugees enrolled

1,975 (13%)
refugees aged 6-13
1,726 (87%)
refugees enrolled

681 (88%)
refugees aged 14-17
81 (12%)
refugees enrolled

Pre-primary

Primary

Secondary

120
teachers are working in schools refugees attend but more are needed to reach teacher-student ratio standards:

9
additional teachers needed for number of students enrolled
20
teachers

45
additional teachers needed for number of students enrolled
77
teachers

23
teachers sufficient for number of students enrolled

1. Oruchinga is closed to new arrivals, but 34 individuals are being reunited with family already living in the settlement and awaiting status determination.



Food assistance

2 partners: SP, WFP

30
eligible beneficiaries did not receive in-kind food assistance in the last distribution



6,649
eligible beneficiaries received in-kind food assistance in the last distribution



0
agencies conducting unconditional cash for food distributions

Livelihoods and environment

3 partners: ARC, HIJRA, Nsamizi

1,052
households have not received technology support for production



703
households have received technology support for production

2,266
individuals assisted through livelihoods programmes, participating in:

1,125
Village savings and loan associations

647
Income generating activities

229
Savings and cooperative societies

265
Short-term livelihoods trainings

0
Vocational trainings

0
organizations conducting livelihoods trainings do not monitor participation of PSNs



3
organizations conducting livelihoods trainings monitor participation of PSNs

110
PSNs are enrolled in short-term livelihoods trainings
289
PSNs have graduated from short-term livelihoods trainings



2 out of 3
of the organizations monitoring PSNs participation track employment outcomes for PSNs after their graduation
13
PSNs who graduated from short-term livelihoods trainings were employed after three months

Health and nutrition

2 partners: MTI, WFP

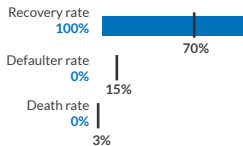


2
primary healthcare facilities
1
additional facility needed

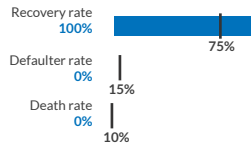
2 out of 2
outpatient therapeutic programmes and supplementary feeding programmes meet the minimum standards, with average rates of:



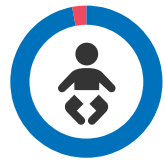
1 supplementary feeding programme:



1 outpatient therapeutic programme:



5
women delivered without skilled healthcare staff in the past three months



207
women delivered with skilled healthcare staff in the past three months

Shelter, site, and NFIs

1 partner: AIRD, HIJRA



73¹
new arrival households were provided with NFI kits in the past three months, meeting the settlement needs



8.4 sq kilometers
Total surface area of the settlement



1.4 sq kilometer
Total surface area for residential use



120
additional PSN shelters needed, but a lack of data on existing PSN shelters prevented the gap from being measured



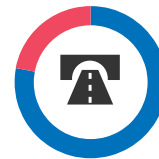
0
reception centres are needed, because the settlement is not currently receiving new arrivals



6 sq kilometers
Total surface area for farming use



1 sq kilometer
Total surface area of wetlands, which is unusable land



7
UNHCR/partner facilities have been constructed
2
additional UNHCR/partner facilities are needed



0
agencies conducting unconditional cash for NFIs distributions



Household plot
information not provided

1. This figure includes some households that were already registered in Oruchinga, went back to their country of origin, and then returned to the settlement.