

A young boy with a short haircut and a bright smile is the central focus of the image. He is wearing a dark blue t-shirt and a backpack. Behind him, a group of other children are visible, some looking towards the camera and others looking away. The background is slightly blurred, showing a classroom setting with a wooden structure and a painting on the wall.

UGANDA COUNTRY REFUGEE RESPONSE PLAN

The integrated response plan for refugees from South Sudan, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo

January 2019 — December 2020

Revised in March 2019

CREDITS:

UNHCR wishes to acknowledge the contributions of partners and staff in Uganda Office, Regional Service Center (RSC) - Nairobi and Headquarters who have participated in the preparation of the narrative, financial and graphic components of this document.

Production: UNHCR, Regional Refugee Coordination Office (RRC), Nairobi, Kenya.

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All statistics are provisional and subject to change.

For more information:

Burundi crisis go to: [Burundi Information Sharing Portal](#)

South Sudan crisis go to: [South Sudan Information Sharing Portal](#)

DRC crisis go to: [DRC Information Sharing Portal](#)

[Uganda refugees country page](#)

FRONT COVER PHOTOGRAPH:

Thirteen-year-old South Sudanese refugee John Luis, from Juba, South Sudan, inside a classroom at Ofonze Primary School in Bidibidi refugee settlement, Yumbe District, Northern Region, Uganda

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1.3M

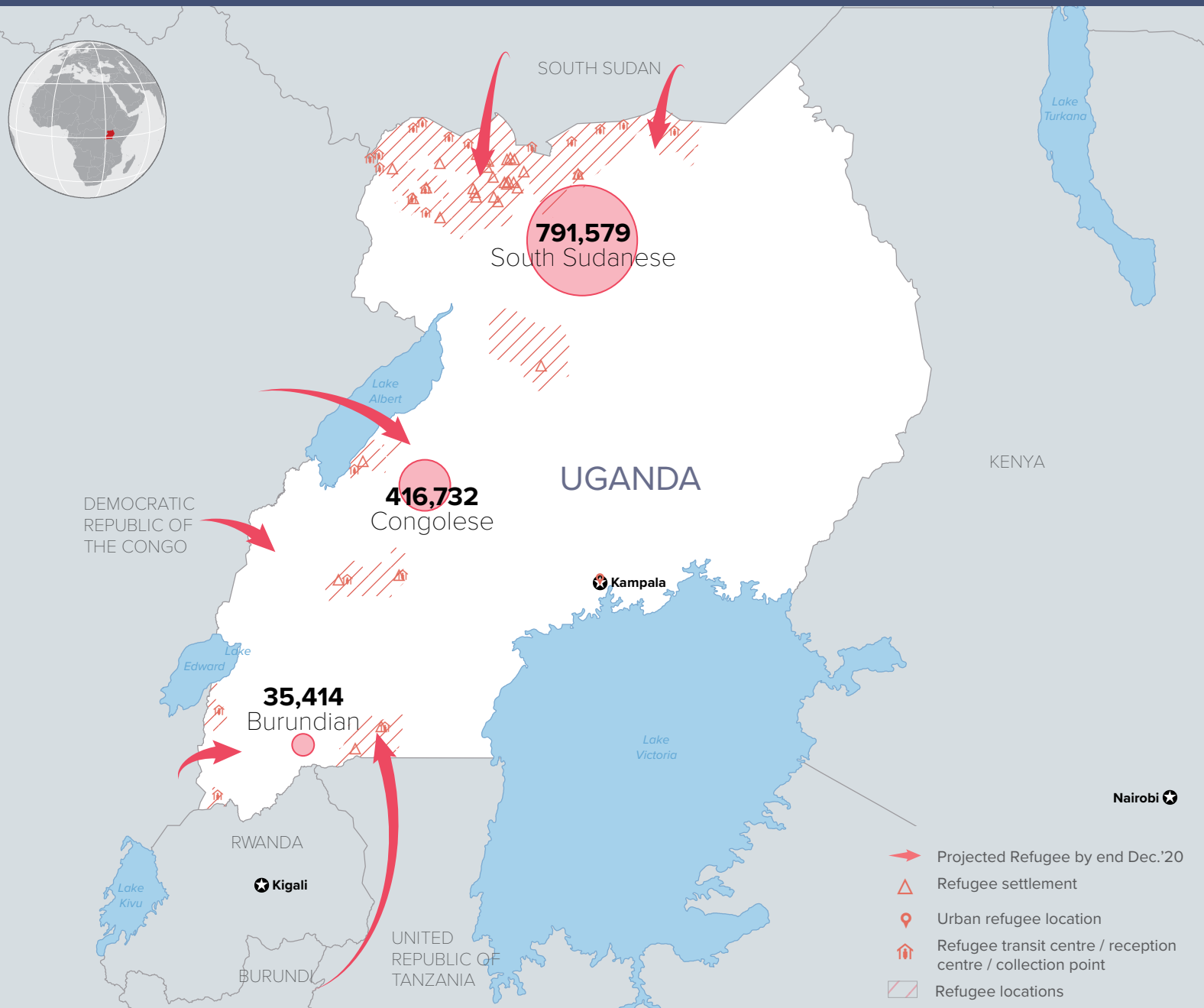
2019-2020 PROJECTED
REFUGEE POPULATION

US\$ 927M

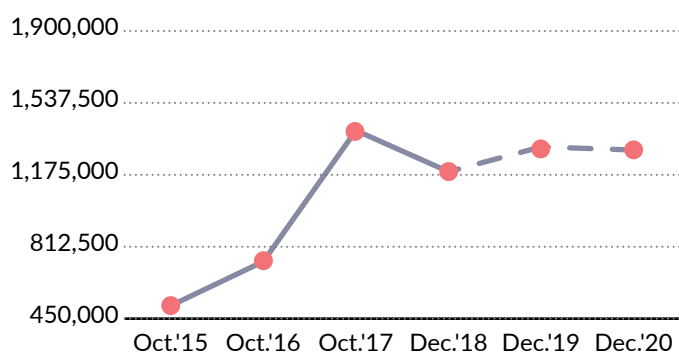
2019 REQUIREMENTS

68

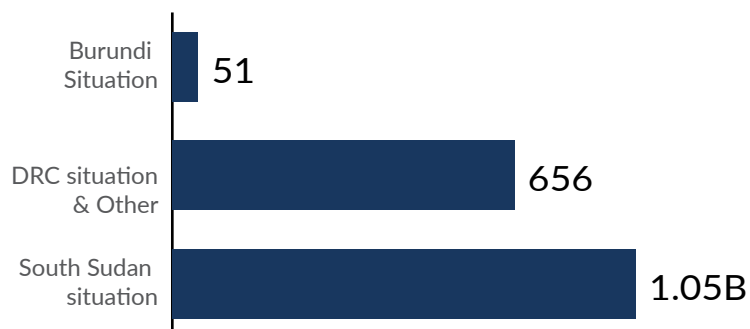
2019 & 2020 PARTNERS
INVOLVED



Refugee Population Trends 2015 - 2020* (Source UNHCR, OPD)



2019 and 2020 Requirements by Situation | in millions US\$



Executive Summary

The Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) jointly launched the revision of the 2019-2020 Uganda Refugee Response Plan (RRP) in February 2019 to align RRP planning figures, targets and budgets with a reduced refugee population as of year-end 2018. The latter resulted from three main factors:

1. Lower number of refugees and asylum seekers in Uganda, following the conclusion of verification in October 2018;
2. Lower than anticipated refugee influxes from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), South Sudan and Burundi by year-end 2018;
3. Downward review of the expected number of new refugee arrivals from the DRC in 2019, from 100,000 to 80,000.

With a new baseline population of 1.19 million refugees as of 31 December 2018, RRP partners revised their plans to cater for 1.31 million refugees by the end of 2019 and 1.30 million refugees by the end of 2020 – compared to the initial projections of 1.74 million by year-end 2019 and 1.73 million by year-end 2020.

Whilst seeking to meet humanitarian needs, the 2019-2020 RRP also serve as a transition plan towards

sustainable refugee response programming in Uganda. As such, this plan contributes to achieving the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) in Uganda, alongside interventions carried out by government institutions.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Under the leadership and coordination of the Government, the Uganda 2019-2020 RRP aims at achieving the following objectives:

- Through to 2020, Uganda's asylum space is maintained, equal and unhindered access to territory is preserved;
- The Government of Uganda owns protection processes that promote the full enjoyment of rights, and international protection standards;
- By 2020, the refugee response paradigm in Uganda has progressively shifted from care and maintenance to inclusion and self-reliance;
- By 2020, refugees decisively benefit from provision of inclusive basic social services;
- By 2020, refugees are well on their path to access durable solutions.

Partners appealing for funds from non-UN sources

Sectors	South Sudan	DRC and others	Burundi	Total
Protection	30	22	7	34
Education	17	11	1	19
Environment & Energy	13	22	3	17
Food Security	1	2	1	2
Health & Nutrition	15	13	5	16
Livelihood & Resilience	39	21	6	40
Shelter, Settlement & NFI	10	11	2	12
WASH	22	15	3	23
Total	64	42	11	68

PRIORITY OUTCOMES

Partners and sectors will be guided by the following priority outcomes for planning and programming:

1. Refugee protection;
2. Emergency response;
3. Education;
4. Environment;
5. Livelihoods;
6. Urban refugees

2019-2020 RRP'S INNOVATIONS

The 2019-2020 RRP brings a number of novelties compared to previous RRP's, as follows:

- Two-year planning cycle;
- Disaggregated targets for host communities;
- Resilience interventions to support national systems to achieve integrated social service delivery;
- Sector strategies and priorities aligned to existing government sector response plans;
- Enhanced results framework to monitor the RRP performance;
- Sector needs analysis based on the 2018 joint inter-agency Multi-Sector Needs Assessment.

Background and Achievements

Overview

Over one million refugees have fled to Uganda in the last two and a half years, making the Pearl of Africa the third largest refugee-hosting country in the world after Turkey and Pakistan¹, with 1.19 million refugees by December 2018. Wars, violence and persecution in the Horn of Africa and Great Lakes Region were the main drivers of forced displacement into Uganda, led by South Sudan's conflict, insecurity and ethnic violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and political instability and human rights violations in Burundi.

South Sudanese make up the largest refugee population in Uganda (789,099 people) as of December 2018, followed by refugees from the DRC (312,699) and Burundi (34,981). Another 54,143 refugees from Somalia, Rwanda, Eritrea Sudan and Ethiopia have lived in protracted exile in Uganda for the past three decades.

Sixty-two per cent of Uganda's refugees are under the age of 18, one of the most visible consequences of conflicts in neighboring countries - and with clear implications for the provision of protection services.

¹ UNHCR, 2017 Global Trends Report: <http://www.unhcr.org/5b27be547>

CRRF AND UGANDA'S REFUGEE POLICY

The Government of Uganda formally launched the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) in March 2017, embracing existing initiatives, mechanisms and policies seeking to address the needs of refugee and host communities in Uganda.

Uganda's favourable protection environment for refugees is grounded in the 2006 Refugee Act and the 2010 Refugee Regulations. These legislations allow refugees freedom of movement, the right to work, establish a business, own property and access national services, including primary and secondary education and health care.

South Sudanese and Congolese asylum seekers are granted refugee status on a prima facie basis, while refugees from other nationalities undergo Refugee Status Determination (RSD) interviews with the Refugee Eligibility Committee, an inter-ministerial body. Prima facie refugee status determination for Burundian was revoked in May 2017 and entered into force on 1 June 2017.

Through its Settlement Transformative Agenda (STA), Uganda pursues a non-encampment policy to refugee protection and assistance. Refugees are provided with a plot of land for housing and cultivation and can settle alongside their host communities.

The CRRF seeks to advance Uganda's STA, embedded into the National Development Plan II (NDP II, 2016-2021), including through the implementation of the humanitarian refugee response (emergencies and protracted situations) and development-oriented interventions like the Refugee and Host Populations Framework (ReHoPE), under the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF). CRRF's long-term goal is sustainability of STA and inclusion of refugees into national and local development plans.

By January 2018, national arrangements were firmly established to this end. The CRRF Steering Group, co-led by the OP) and the Ministry of Local Government since mid-2018, ensures government ownership of the CRRF and optimizes coordination both at central and local level within the existing legal frameworks. For the first time in Uganda, Permanent Secretaries of key line ministries were represented at the high-level Steering Group, which is responsible for coordinating and activating leadership amongst key line ministries as well as mobilizing resources from non-traditional actors in the refugee response to support the transition and integration of humanitarian-based services into Uganda's national service delivery system.

The CRRF Steering Group includes also Government Departments and Agencies, Local Governments, development and humanitarian donors, representatives of UN Agencies, national and international NGOs, the private sector and international financial institutions. One distinguishing feature of the CRRF Steering Group is the participation of affected communities, with five host population representatives and two others from the refugee community.

The CRRF Secretariat was also constituted and capacitated by February 2018. It serves as the technical body of the CRRF Steering Group, providing the daily technical assistance to line ministries to articulate coordinated plans within Uganda's existing development sector working groups. It drafted and published Uganda's CRRF Road Map to guide its stakeholders toward expected results in 2018, based on a set of indicators. The Road Map highlights the following priority focus areas: adaptation and standardization of refugee response and protection based on lessons learned; access to quality education for refugee and host communities; water delivery and infrastructure; environment and energy; health care; and livelihoods, resilience and self-reliance.

To bridge the gaps between Uganda's NDP II and full refugee inclusion into NDP III, the Ministry of Education and Sports, Ministry of Health, and Ministry of Water and Environment initiated sector response plans to include refugees into the current (development) national sector plans. A first of its kind in the world, the Education Response Plan for Refugees and Host Communities, as an addendum to the education sector strategy for Uganda under NDP II, was launched in September 2018, creating entry points for development donors, consolidating humanitarian actors into one government plan and providing a legal basis for district local governments to plan and budget for educational service delivery for all in their area of coverage. At the end of 2018, Ministry of Health leveraged the CRRF to complete the Uganda National Integrated Health Response Plan for Refugees and Host Communities, seeking to integrate humanitarian health services into the government health care system. This plan is due for release in early 2019.

With the impetus of CRRF, these government sector plans 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 in the long run, and provide more space and capacity to humanitarian actors to meet critical life-saving imperatives.

Twelve of Uganda's 121 districts host the overwhelming majority of refugees. The vast majority (95 per cent) lives in settlements alongside the local communities, including 62 per cent in northern Uganda or West Nile (Adjumani, Yumbe, Arua, Moyo, Lamwo and Koboko), 21 per cent in southwestern Uganda or South West (Kyegegwa, Kamwenge and Isingiro) and 12 per cent in central Uganda or Mid West (Kiryandongo and Kikuube). Urban centres are home to five per cent of the refugee population, mainly Kampala.

With expected refugee influxes from the DRC (120,000), South Sudan (70,000) and Burundi (7,000) throughout the period covered by the RRP, Uganda is likely to host about 1.31 and 1.3 million refugees by the end of 2019 and 2020 respectively. These figures also factor about 138,000 returns to DRC (30,000), South Sudan (100,000) and Burundi (8,000) over the same time period.

Achievements and challenges

Border and protection monitoring along the Ugandan borders ensured that 164,468 new refugee arrivals were provided with reception assistance and transferred to settlements in 2018. Among them were 40,718 refugees from South Sudan, 119,919 from the DRC and 3,831 from Burundi. No case of refoulment was reported in 2018.

In order to address growing concerns about the accuracy and reliability of refugee data used for fundraising, programming and of assistance, the Government of Uganda and UNHCR jointly launched in March 2018 a biometric verification of all refugees, with 1.15 million refugees identified as present in the country by October 2018 – compared to 1.4 million recorded in the previous Government refugee information management system (RIMS). A memorandum of

protection services and humanitarian aid (including targeted assistance for persons with specific needs) and the pursuit of durable solutions.

In the settlements, refugees continued to receive monthly food rations, household items and access to multi-sectoral services, in addition to a plot of land for housing and farming. In urban areas, the most vulnerable refugees receive targeted assistance from partners.

Following the sudden and mass refugee influx from DRC's Ituri province in late December 2017, several transit and reception centres were built or expanded in 2018. This includes construction of Nyakabande's new transit centre (Kisoro district) and Matanda transit centre (Kanyonyo district), refurbishment and repair of

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https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_18040

