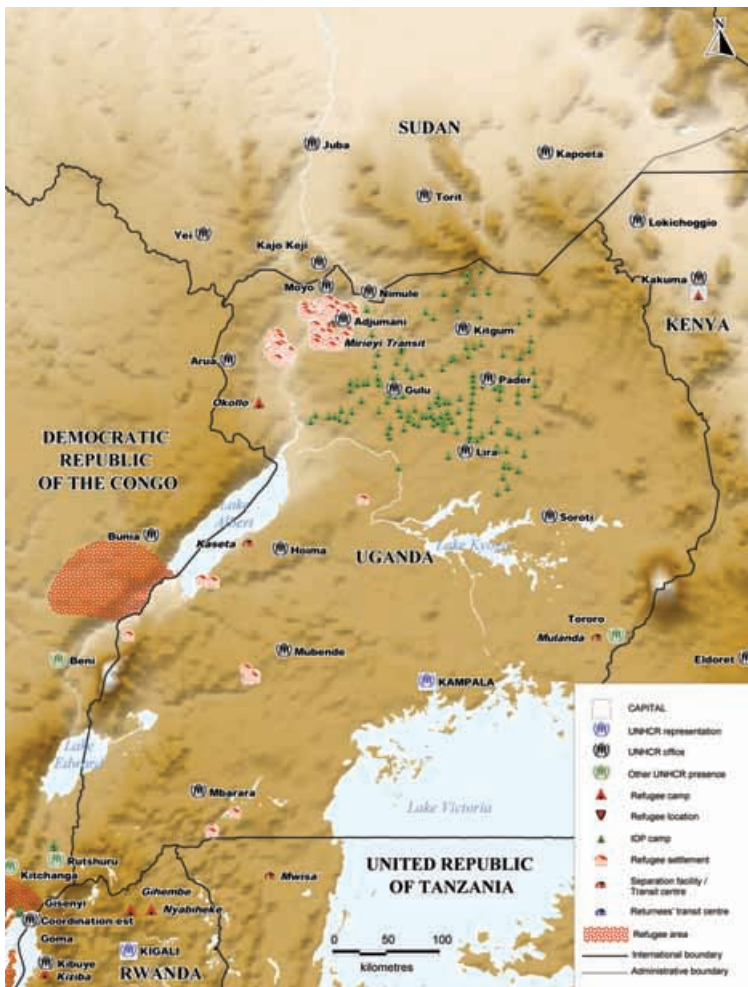


UGANDA



Economic growth rates in Uganda are high and well above the average of sub-Saharan Africa. Nonetheless, infrastructure constraints, economic problems in the northern part of the country and the persistence of general poverty need to be addressed.

Participatory assessments in refugee settlements and IDP communities in several districts revealed protection risks and concerns related to the lack of medicines and safe drinking water, the latter particularly during the dry season. Other problems lay in access to post-primary education and lack of security. Cases of sexual and gender-based violence needed follow-up, while social issues such as early or forced marriages, high school-dropout rates among girls and the low number of women in leadership structures also needed to be addressed.

Achievements and impact

Main objectives

UNHCR's objectives in Uganda in 2008 were to protect refugees and asylum-seekers; help them gain access to asylum procedures; prevent illegal expulsion, abuse and sexual and gender-based violence and maintain the civilian character of asylum in refugee settlements. In addition, under the framework of the cluster approach, the Office protected IDPs against abuse, exploitation and sexual and gender-based violence. UNHCR also facilitated and promoted, where feasible, the voluntary repatriation of refugees and the sustainable return of IDPs to their areas of origin. To help all people of concern enjoy their social and economic rights, the Office focused on self-reliance programmes; primary health care; prevention and treatment of malnutrition, HIV and AIDS and malaria; primary education; water and sanitation; and the empowerment of women.

Furthermore, UNHCR helped the Government to implement the new Refugee Act, responded to new influxes of Congolese asylum-seekers, and cooperated with the early recovery cluster to implement the peace recovery and development plan and district development plans.

Protection and solutions

No cases of illegal expulsion or deportation were reported in 2008. Refugees in the settlements enjoyed freedom of movement, and some were able to find work. All refugees and a small number of asylum-seekers in Nakivale and Oruchinga were registered. However, the provision of identity documents for both refugees and asylum-seekers needs to be enhanced. Unaccompanied minors and separated children in Kyaka, Kyangwali and Kiyrandongo settlements benefited from Best Interests Determination (BID) exercises. Extremely vulnerable individuals in the settlements were

Operational highlights

- UNHCR assisted some 230,000 refugees in 11 settlements, including 30,000 newly arrived refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).
- The Office facilitated the voluntary repatriation of some 42,000 Sudanese refugees.
- UNHCR played an integral role in the assistance, protection and return of more than 600,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs). Another 332,000 IDPs were in transit sites preparing for return or relocation to other parts of the country.
- The Office helped the Government of Uganda verify and register some 23,000 urban refugees.

Working environment

Though a peace agreement between the rebel Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) and the Government was not signed, Uganda remained politically stable in 2008. With the exception of cattle rustling and banditry in Karamoja and petty theft in Kampala, there were no major security problems.

provided with food. UNHCR's voluntary repatriation operation to Southern Sudan, which began in 2006, continued in 2008.

○ *Activities and assistance*

Community services: In collaboration with the Government, UNHCR provided training on the prevention of violence against women and girls. In addition, crisis intervention teams were set up to deal with sexual and gender-based violence. As a result, some 420 cases of such violence were reported to police or counsellors.

Domestic needs and household support: UNHCR provided non-food items as well as firewood and charcoal to refugees. More than 1,800 energy-efficient stoves were constructed in four settlements in Yumbe and Arua to reduce fuel and wood consumption.

Education: In Sudanese refugees' settlements, overall school enrolment fell from some 10,700 students to 5,300 due to repatriation. In Congolese refugees' settlements, efforts were made to improve the provision of educational materials and administrative support.

Forestry: Tree and fruit seedlings were provided to refugees and IDPs throughout the settlements to improve environmental conditions, empower communities to manage their own nurseries, and promote income-generating activities.

Health and nutrition: Under five and crude mortality rates were kept within minimum standards, although infant mortality remained relatively high in the camps. The Global

Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rate improved from 6.3 per cent in 2007 to 5 per cent in 2008. However, the Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) rate grew slightly worse, from 1.6 per cent in 2007 to 2 per cent in 2008.

Legal assistance: UNHCR provided legal assistance when needed to refugees and IDPs. Protection training made refugees aware of their rights and obligations.

Operational support (to agencies): The Office provided financial and technical support to implementing partners.

Sanitation: In Sudanese settlements, because of planned voluntary repatriation, fewer family latrines were constructed in 2008 than the year before. UNHCR lobbied for the establishment of water and sanitation committees in settlements to improve sanitary conditions.

Shelter and other infrastructure: Shelter materials were provided for new Kenyan and DRC refugees and shelter capacities were enlarged in repatriation centres in order to accommodate groups of up to 600 returnees.

Transport and logistics: The Office provided transport for the voluntary repatriation of refugees and relocation of IDPs, as well as to ferry non-food items and water.

Water: The average quantity of water available in all Sudanese settlements was 20 litres per person per day. The number of people per useable borehole averaged 395. In Nakivale, 12 shallow wells and seven boreholes were installed, and the water supply rose from 7.2 litres per person per day to 11.6 per person per day by end of 2008.

Persons of concern					
Type of population	Origin	Total	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Per cent female	Per cent under 18
Refugees	DRC	76,500	76,500	50	56
	Sudan	56,900	56,900	51	56
	Rwanda	16,200	16,200	50	59
	Somalia	6,100	6,100	46	37
	Burundi	3,200	3,200	50	57
	Kenya	1,900	1,900	49	54
	Eritrea	800	800	44	31
	Ethiopia	600	600	37	20
	Various	40	40	47	31
Asylum-seekers	DRC	2,500	2,500	46	51
	Somalia	2,200	2,200	44	31
	Eritrea	1,900	1,900	37	21
	Rwanda	1,100	1,100	50	46
	Ethiopia	700	700	36	11
	Sudan	400	400	32	35
	Burundi	340	340	42	46
	Kenya	140	140	51	55
	Various	30	30	38	31
Returnees (refugees)	Various	100	100	-	-
IDPs		853,000 ¹	853,000	-	-
Returnees (IDPs)		603,000	603,000	-	-
Total		1,627,650	1,627,650		

¹ The IDP figure at the end of 2008 represents the remaining IDP population in camps and transit sites. They remain of concern to UNHCR together with those 603,000 who have already returned to their villages in 2008.

● Constraints

The Government of Uganda and the LRA have yet to sign a peace accord. If a lasting peace is not achieved and maintained, humanitarian activities and the search for durable solutions for IDPs could be hindered. Lack of progress on the implementation of the Refugee Act has made it difficult for refugees to fully enjoy their rights, while the dearth of comprehensive local integration policies exacerbates the protracted nature of the refugee situation in Uganda.

| Financial information |

The total annual budget and supplementary budget have significantly increased, from USD 15 million in 2003 to over USD 34 million in 2008, to cope with the large number of IDPs and newly arrived Congolese refugees from the DRC.

| Organization and implementation |

UNHCR operations in Uganda were coordinated by the Representation Office in Kampala and sub-offices in Arua, Gulu and Hoima. Six field offices and three field units monitored refugee and IDP operations in the field. UNHCR had 116 employees in Uganda in 2008, including 17 international and 79 national staff, four JPOs and 16 UNVs.

| Working with others |

UNHCR Uganda is an active participant in the UN Country Team and has strong working relations with OCHA, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO, WFP and the World Bank. The Office took part in the Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP) and in the UNDAF process. In addition, the Office led the Protection Cluster Working Group (PCWG), and co-chaired the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster with IOM and the emergency shelter cluster with the IFRC. It also participated actively in the IDP cluster.

| Overall assessment |

Despite encountering operational and other obstacles in 2008, UNHCR met most of its programme objectives through strong partnerships with the Government and other actors.

Over 4,000 Congolese refugees have entered Uganda through Ishasha since the beginning of November 2008





Partners

Implementing partners

Government agencies: Office of the Prime Minister, District Director of Health Services (Arua, Yumbe), District Education Officers (Arua, Moyo), Directorate of Community Services (Arua), Ministry of Works and Transport

NGOs: Africa Humanitarian Action, *Aktion Afrika Hilfe*, African Development and Emergency Organization, African Initiative for Relief and Development, American Refugee Committee, *Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund*, Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development, Association of Volunteers in International Service, Danish Refugee Council, German Development Services, GOAL (Ireland), Health of Adolescents Programme, InterAid Uganda, International Rescue Committee, Jesuit Refugee Services, Norwegian Refugee Council, Windle Trust Uganda

Others: *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit*, FAO, OCHA, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHABITAT, UNICEF, WFP and WHO

Operational partners

Government agencies: Office of the Prime Minister

NGOs: *Action Contre la Faim*, Directorate of Community Development, Finnish Refugee Council, German Development Services, Right to Play, International Rescue Committee, Madi AIDS Control Initiative, *Médecins sans Frontières*, National Lake Rescue Institute, Save the Children, Youth Anti-Aids Service Association

Others: Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development of the Federal Republic of Germany (BMZ), OCHA, Uganda Red Cross Society, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNICEF, UNHCHR, UNV and WFP.

Budget, income and expenditure in Uganda (USD)

	Final budget	Income from contributions	Other funds available	Total funds available ¹	Total expenditure
Annual budget	20,827,875	19,166,142	979,269	20,145,411	19,992,370
IDP operations in Uganda SB	14,432,710	12,166,330	1,912,989	14,079,319	12,121,830
Return and reintegration of Sudanese refugees SB	5,481,243	330,176	4,053,661	4,383,837	4,376,265
Water and sanitation SB	200,000	0	199,118	199,118	199,119
Avian and human influenza preparedness SB	150,000	24,071	116,219	140,290	140,290
Supplementary budget subtotal	20,263,953	12,520,578	6,281,987	18,802,565	16,837,504
Total	41,091,828	31,686,720	7,261,255	38,947,976	36,829,874

Note: Supplementary programmes do not include seven per cent support costs that are recovered from contributions to meet indirect costs for UNHCR. Income from contributions includes contributions earmarked at the country level. Other funds available include transfers from unearmarked and broadly earmarked contributions, opening balance and adjustments.

¹ Total funds available include currency adjustments. See Note on Table 3.

Financial report for UNHCR's operations in Uganda (USD)

Expenditure breakdown	Current year's projects			Prior years' project
	Annual programme budget	Supplementary programme budget	Total	Annual and supplementary budgets
Protection, monitoring and coordination	3,330,098	3,999,109	7,329,207	0
Community services	877,316	657,155	1,534,471	67,570
Crop production	0	0	0	7,841
Domestic needs and household support	111,195	2,444	113,639	11,725
Education	1,215,326	0	1,215,326	144,962
Food	5	1	6	0
Forestry	113,207	0	113,207	41,263
Health and nutrition	1,774,917	33,564	1,808,481	536,868
Legal assistance	903,704	2,765,808	3,669,512	887,876
Operational support (to agencies)	2,098,253	2,159,684	4,257,937	451,485
Sanitation	228,037	27,704	255,741	68,969
Shelter and infrastructure	263,039	907,176	1,170,215	170,922
Transport and logistics	3,647,819	3,083,650	6,731,469	80,699
Water	400,274	289,526	689,800	156,383
Instalments to implementing partners	1,651,374	2,782,188	4,433,562	(2,626,563)
Subtotal operational activities	16,614,564	16,708,009	33,322,573	0
Programme support	3,377,806	129,495	3,507,301	0
Total expenditure	19,992,370	16,837,504	36,829,874	0
Cancellation on prior years' expenditure				(302,996)
Instalments with implementing partners				
Payments made	9,702,135	8,666,214	18,368,349	
Reporting received	(8,050,776)	(5,884,025)	(13,934,801)	
Balance	1,651,359	2,782,189	4,433,548	
Outstanding 1st January				3,132,204
Reporting received				(2,626,563)
Refunded to UNHCR				(367,326)
Currency adjustment				(4,147)
Outstanding 31st December				134,168