



COUNTRY FACTS

1997

DRC has been present in Uganda since 1997 currently implementing projects in West-Nile, Northern Uganda, Western Uganda and South Western Uganda.

TOTAL POPULATION

42.7 M

DISPLACED POPULATION

1,423,740

refugees and asylum seekers

33,100

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

PEOPLE SERVED

547,558

In 2019

FACTS

Uganda has 13 refugees hosting districts (Adjumani, Terego, Isingiro, Kampala, Kamwenge, Kikuube, Kiryandongo, Kyegegwa, Koboko, Lamwo, Madi-Okollo, Obongi and Yumbe).

What Caused the Crisis?

Uganda currently hosts an unprecedented number of refugees and asylum seekers, with more than 1.42 million recorded as of March 2020, majority of whom are South Sudanese and Congolese. The number of new arrivals from South Sudan in 2019 was considerably lower than in 2018, yet a different trend on Congolese refugees emerged, with a spike in the number of new arrivals from North and South Kivu since mid-June 2019. This trend is anticipated to continue as insecurity and ethnic violence endures in the eastern part of DR Congo.

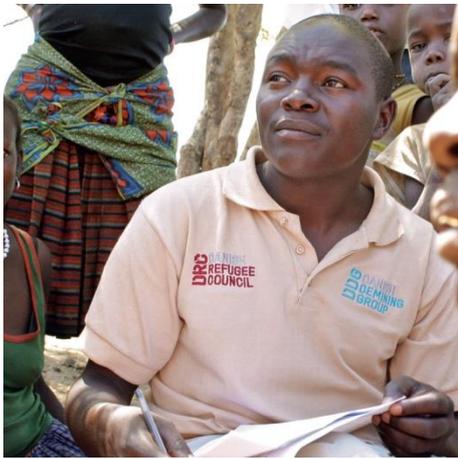
Uganda has historically been welcoming towards refugees being an implementer of the [Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework \(CRRF\)](#). This refugee response programming supports not only the displaced, but also their host communities. The Uganda Government Policy requires that 30 percent of the assistance to the refugee communities should benefit their host communities as well. The majority of DRC Uganda projects in refugee settlements follow the 50:50 principle, equally benefiting both the refugees and their hosts and forging peaceful coexistence between them. However, the growing numbers put pressure on the land allocation system and no-encampment policies, putting the “Uganda model” at risk.

Displacement Challenges

There are four particular situations that require DRC-DDG’s presence in Uganda:

- Continuous influx of newly displaced DR Congo and South Sudan refugees; continued instability in DR Congo and localized Ebola outbreak in Ituri/North Kivu which could result in an influx of refugees.
- Protracted displacement situation of refugees.
- Small scale return and cross border programming.
- Conflict and armed violence in the pastoralist regions.

The recent history of conflict and displacement in the region shows that Uganda is a preferred destination for the refugees in the region. Over the last two years, nine new settlements were established to receive and protect refugees and ensure they had basic shelter and acceptable living conditions. This inevitably stretched the resources and capacities of all actors beyond endurance. The condition of newly arrived refugees remains precarious as the protection and safety net available becomes insufficient to achieve full integration and self-reliance. The Government of Uganda, UNHCR and other international agencies continue to support the refugees and displaced populations. However, the funds available are limited and will continue to shrink based on the planning population figures for 2019-2020.



How Does DRC Uganda Help?



Protection

DRC Uganda works to ensure the protection of refugees. Our projects focus on general protection support, legal aid, child protection, sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) support, environmental protection, access to semi-permanent shelter and sustainable energy, and livelihoods support in order to ensure the protection and fulfilment of the rights of refugees and the host population. The protection issues addressed by the proposed interventions are intertwined, cross-cutting and carefully planned, with integrated actions to address the needs effectively. We contribute to the reduction of vulnerabilities through multi-sectorial approaches and building community self-protection amongst the refugees, asylum seekers, and host communities.



Livelihoods, income generating activities, and cash assistance

Displacement represents an acute threat to the economic well-being of the displaced. DRC Uganda focuses on four main intervention areas in its economic recovery programming:



- Emergency
- Household Food Security
- Income Generation (farm and off farm)
- Market Systems.

Across the interventions, two cross-cutting themes are prioritized: Financial Inclusion, and Energy and Environment. Income Generating Activities (IGA) and Village Loans and Saving Associations (VSLA) are emerging as the most effective and promising outcome and sustainability component of the livelihood intervention. DRC helps rebuild livelihoods through a variety of means, including business and entrepreneurship training, small business grants, life-skills training, literacy and numeracy training, vocational training, micro-credit loans, savings groups, and group enterprise development.

Since 2017, DRC Uganda has successfully integrated cash programming in emergencies. This has been scaled up in West Nile and Southwest of the country to support all new arrivals in refugee settlements where they receive unconditional cash to cover their basic needs. In order to achieve sustainable livelihoods, DRC will increase its focus on market-driven opportunities, private sector linkages and extensive capacity building of individuals and livelihood groups.

All initiatives are developed with a strong focus on resilience and sustainability, and peaceful-coexistence between the refugees and their host communities. If the host communities and refugees benefit from shared livelihoods assets, increased commercial flows between refugee and host communities, improved service delivery and conflict management mechanisms, then inter-communal relations and development outcomes will improve, which will help protect vulnerable people's economic security and wellbeing following a crisis or shock.



Shelter and infrastructure

DRC Uganda has adopted a mixed strategy to ensure proper balance between immediate protection needs and solution interventions. Given the massive needs and expensive costs of the Uganda shelter and latrine design, a mixed protection and solution strategy has ensured immediate shelter needs are met through local procurement of construction materials and construction through local contractors alongside a labour intensive approach, training youth in carpentry and in production of local materials to reduce the cost of shelter units. This has built the local economy and serves as an economic opportunity for the local suppliers and youth while boosting cash flow circulation and strengthening peaceful coexistence.



Rural infrastructure and water resources management

Under the Northern Uganda Resilience Initiative (NURI), a 4 years programme, DRC Uganda implements rural infrastructure and water management. The objective of NURI is to enhance resilience and equitable economic development in supported areas of Northern Uganda for both refugees and refugee-hosting communities. NURI supports activities in climate smart agriculture, agriculture related rural infrastructure, and water resources management. Support to rural infrastructure and water resource management is provided in areas that contribute to agriculture sector outcomes, particularly access to markets via support to community access roads and rehabilitation or construction of market places and improving water resource management within the landscape. DRC is implementing the agriculture related rural infrastructure, and water resources management with an embedded resilience approach, while the Danish Embassy is supporting local organizations in West-Nile to directly implement activities related to climate smart agriculture. DRC actively participates in stakeholder coordination meetings in all sectors and is engaged at national and district government levels, as well as regularly supports joint assessments conducted in settlements (e.g. VENA).



Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)

We ensure access to water and sanitation facilities for refugees, asylum seekers and the host communities. This includes the provision of emergency water supplies, sanitary latrines, hygiene items, water points, wells, water storage and purification facilities. We conduct information campaigns to promote good hygiene and prevent the spread of infections and diseases.

DRC in Uganda



DRC in UGANDA
has a budget of

10.8
million USD



1

Main Offices



298

National Staff



16

Field Offices



9

International Staff

Donors & Partners



EUROPEAN UNION

 signify foundation



European Union
Civil Protection and
Humanitarian Aid



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF DENMARK
Danida



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