



UNHCR works on making WASH services accessible to refugees and host community members in Nakivale refugee settlement in Uganda | © UNHCR/Esther Ruth Mbabazi

## UGANDA

Uganda is Africa's largest refugee-hosting country, with arrivals continuing in 2023. Most refugees have fled violence in South Sudan or the DRC, and more than 90% are highly economically vulnerable. Although Uganda is a global leader in its approach to peaceful coexistence and refugees have the right to work and to access basic services, more than nine out of every 10 refugees live in the most underdeveloped areas among a local population that already faces great economic and environmental challenges, with pressure on public health, sanitation and education. The refugee population includes over 860,000 children, including over 71,000 who are unaccompanied or separated from their families, 112,000 persons with a disability, and 122,000 women at risk. There are growing concerns around gender-based violence, child marriage, child pregnancy and suicide rates, and the gross enrolment rate for refugee children of secondary school age is only 10%.

Inflation has kept prices high and 90% of refugees need food or cash assistance, although underfunding is eroding the available resources. Anaemia levels have risen alongside a sudden

reduction in general food assistance. Provision of hygiene kits and soap rations has also been reduced.

The Government of Uganda, a co-convenor of the 2023 Global Refugee Forum, is prioritizing increasing the resilience and self-reliance of refugees, taking action against climate change, sharing responsibility rather than shifting duty, localizing the refugee response by strengthening the role of national responders, and building lasting achievable and impactful solutions for refugees.

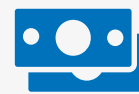
Underfunding threatens to undermine or reverse modest gains already made in nutrition, health and financial inclusion, and leaves minimal resources to respond to acute and growing protection needs. Humanitarian partners will remain overstretched, unable to create economic opportunities for refugees to graduate out of poverty or even ensure delivery of life-saving assistance. More funding will help to meet household basic needs, improve refugees' self-reliance and livelihoods, and support activities to mitigate the refugee population's environmental impact.



### POPULATION OF FORCIBLY DISPLACED AND STATELESS PEOPLE AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

Overall: **1,648,353**

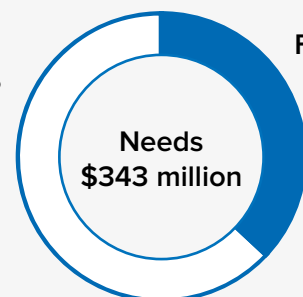
Largest population group: Refugees - **1,463,523** / **89%**



### FUNDING

Gap  
63%

Funded  
37%





## AREAS CUT OR SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCED



**Health:** due to limited funding, Uganda can only provide health and education services to refugees until September 2023. Without additional resources the operation will be forced to halt the provision of essential education and health services and 2,600 health staff, currently supported by UNHCR.

Available stocks of essential drugs can only meet the needs of refugees until September 2023, and the operation is unable to initiate procurement for the fourth quarter of 2023 and the beginning of 2024. This funding gap poses a significant challenge in ensuring the continued supply of essential drugs impacting the provision of critical healthcare services.

The operation has not been able to provide hygiene kits to women since 2022, due to funding constraints. This has impacted the protection, health and well-being of women and girls.



**Education:** the operation cannot provide sufficient scholastic material for 384,276 children enrolled in primary education and will be forced to discontinue salaries for 3,700 teachers.



**Transport and logistics:** the supply of fuel to support UNHCR operations will be severely curtailed by funding constraints, which will affect humanitarian operations including transportation of newly arrived refugees from transit centres and collection points to settlements, as well as the organization of repatriation convoys for refugees opting for voluntary repatriation to Burundi.

## AREAS AT CRITICAL RISK AND IN NEED OF URGENT FUNDING



**Education – \$2.5 million:** \$1.5 million will maintain 3,700 teachers and allow around 270,100 learners to complete their school year (with a pupil to teacher ratio of 1:73). \$1 million will allow for the procurement of scholastic supplies for 384,276 children in primary education.



**Logistics and operational capacity - \$3.7 million:** \$2 million will provide fuel to partners in the fourth quarter of 2023. \$1 million will support vehicle maintenance, vital to the provision of relief supplies and for transportation. \$700,000 will provide for the transport of refugees, including new arrivals, returnees and voluntary repatriation.



**Well-being and basic needs – \$4 million:** 55,000 new arrivals would be supported with basic assistance.



**Health – \$11 million:** \$7 million for medicines and medical supplies will support 1.5 million refugees in 2023. \$4 million will provide health services and maintain 2,600 health staff and some 2,800 VHT workers providing vital access to primary health for 1.5 million refugees, and their host communities.

**Funds available to the operation must reach 2021 levels of \$181.46 million, if not more.**



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