



Country card

Uganda





HI Team and intervention areas

The HI Uganda program consists of 85 staff members and is part of the EAR Regional Program (East African Region)





General data of the country

a. General Data

DATA	Uganda	Kenya	Belgium
Population	47.1	54.9	11.5
IHDI	0.39	0.44	0.85
Gender-related development Index	0.863	0.936	0.974
Maternal mortality	481	377	3
GINI Index	42.7	40.8	27.2
Population within UNHCR mandate	4.069.197	710.978	105.050
INFORM Index	6.2	6	1.7
Fragile State Index	92.1	88.2	31.9
Population covered by at least one social protection benefit (%)	2.8	10.1	100
Net official development assistance received	2100.01	3250.97	0

b. Humanitarian law instruments ratified by the country

Humanitarian law instruments	Status
Mine Ban Treaty	Ratified 03/12/1997
Convention on Cluster Munitions	Ratified 30/12/2017
UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	Ratified 25/09/2008

c. Geopolitical analysis

Social/cultural/demographic elements

Uganda is located in eastern Africa, in the heart of the Great Lakes region. The population is expected to reach 100 million by 2050. The annual urban growth rate of 5.2% is among the highest in the world and is expected to grow from 6.4 million (2014) to 22 million by 2040.



The continuous fighting and systematic violations of international and human rights in South Sudan and the Congo, in parallel with deteriorating conditions caused by several seasons of drought in the region has resulted in a massive increase in primarily South Sudanese and Congolese refugees arriving to Uganda since mid-2016. Since March 2022, over 52,000 refugees have crossed the border to Uganda from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), fleeing clashes between DRC government troops and the M23 rebels, as well as attacks by the Allied Democratic Forces, ADF in North Kivu.

Political context

In 1967, a new constitution proclaimed Uganda a republic and abolished the traditional kingdoms. The latest general elections were held in Uganda on 14 January 2021 to elect the President and Parliament, with the incumbent, President Museveni, retaining power.

Economic elements

Uganda's economic growth has slowed since 2016, as government spending and public debt has grown. Uganda's budget is dominated by energy and road infrastructure spending, while Uganda relies on donor support for long-term drivers of growth, including agriculture, health, and education. The largest infrastructure projects are externally financed through concessional loans, but at inflated costs. As a result, debt servicing for these loans is expected to rise. The COVID-19 shock caused a sharp contraction of the economy to its slowest pace in three decades. Household incomes fell when firms closed and jobs were lost, particularly in the urban informal sector. The country's Gross Domestic Product contracted by 1.1 percent in 2020, and is estimated to have recovered to 3.3 percent during the 2021 fiscal year. The economic growth outlook is 4.6 percent in the 2022, and acceleration to 6.4 percent in the 2023 fiscal year, as domestic demand conditions improve, and global recovery continues as COVID-19 vaccines are rolled out.

Summary of HI presence in the country

HI was initially present in Uganda from 2009-2013, implementing a number of related projects including demining, mine risk education, physical rehabilitation for victims of war, and victims' assistance projects. HI was also active in the inclusive employment and livelihoods sectors. When Uganda was declared landmine free in 2012, HI closed the operation.

In May 2017 HI re-opened our Uganda programme in order to contribute to the South Sudanese and Congolese refugee response.

Currently, work across 10 Districts and 8 refugee settlements, providing a mixture of humanitarian and development services including mental health and psychosocial support, physical rehabilitation, inclusive education and health services to vulnerable populations from host and refugee communities.



Overview on ongoing projects

Sectors where HI conducts projects and focus on beneficiaries and operational partnerships

Main sector(s) of intervention	Project title / Main activities	Beneficiaries	Partner(s)	Location	Project start and end date	Donors who finance the project
Health & Prevention / Mental Health and PsychoSocial Support (MHPSS) Rehabilitation Services / Physical and functional rehabilitation	<p>INCHARGE - Integrated Nutrition, Community Health, and Rehabilitation for Greater Empowerment</p> <p>Project Goal Increase access to comprehensive life-saving primary health care services while promoting meaningful access to safe rehabilitative and psychosocial support that is accountable to refugees and host populations in West Nile, Southwest, and Midwest Uganda settlements and transit centres.</p> <p>Main Activities</p>	Persons with MHPSS needs and those with mobility challenges, including the elderly	Medical Teams International (MTI)- Lead partner and Tutapona	Kyaka II and Kyangwali refugee settlements	August 2021 – July 2024	United States Department of State – Bureau Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM)



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of MHPSS services (peer support sessions for adults and “tree of life” intervention for children) and individual sessions for adults and children. • Provision of Rehabilitation services including treatment and provision of adapted assistive devices. 					
<p>Health & Prevention / Mental Health and PsychoSocial Support (MHPSS)</p> <p>Rehabilitation Services / Physical and functional rehabilitation</p>	<p>APEAL IV- Access to Protection, Empowerment, Accountability and Leadership for Refugees and host communities in Western Uganda</p> <p>Project Goal Newly arrived asylum seekers and refugees from Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and South Sudan, as well as their hosting communities, receive protection and mental health assistance through Access to</p>	<p>People affected by displacement (refugees and host communities) focusing on persons at heightened risk who have multiple vulnerabilities, complex issues or concerns that require</p>	<p>Implemented in a consortium with CARE as the Lead. The other partners are: War Child Holland (WCH), Save the Children and</p>	<p>Kyangwali refugee settlement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kyaka II refugee settlement • Imvepi refugee settlement • Nyakabande Transit Site 	<p>May 2022 – February 2023</p>	<p>European Community Humanitarian Office (ECHO)</p>



	<p>Protection, Empowerment, Accountability and Leadership (APEAL) Action.</p> <p><u>Main Activities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provision of individualized (1-1) therapy and case management for highly specialized MHPSS cases• Provision of MHPSS Problem Management Plus (PM+) group sessions• Provision of physical and functional rehabilitation services• Capacity building of key in inclusion of persons with disabilities and gender• Training key settlement level staff and stakeholders on the implementation of the Interagency Standing	<p>case management to enable a response tailored to their needs.</p>	<p>International Rescue Committee (IRC)</p>			
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	<p>Committee (IASC) guidelines on inclusion of persons with disabilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of Integrated Rehabilitation and MHPSS services to persons with disabilities during Influx of refugees (Emergency response). 					
<p>Social & Inclusion / Education Services</p>	<p>INCLUDE II- INnovative and inCLUusive accelerated eDucation programmE for refugee and host community children</p> <p>Project Goal The second phase of INCLUDE is designed to meet the needs of out of school children and youth and respond to the changing COVID-19 context in Uganda while preparing for new arrivals as borders open and neighboring countries experience new phases of conflict.</p> <p>Main Activities</p>	<p>20 Primary schools Targeting in and out of school children including those with disabilities</p>	<p>Save the Children (Lead), Finn Church Aid (FCA), Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), WCH</p>	<p>Nakivale & Kyangwali Refugee settlements in South Western Uganda</p>	<p>May 2022 – December 2022</p>	<p>European Community Humanitarian Office (ECHO)</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community awareness sessions on Inclusive Education• Provision of teaching and learning materials and school supplies including adapted materials for children with disabilities• Accessibility audit & training• Provision of personalized specific services to children with disabilities• Teacher training in Inclusive Education.• Provision of accessible reading materials (large font books)• Parents Teacher Association (PTA) and School Management Committees (SMC) in inclusive school improvement plans.					
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity Building for District Education Offices (DEO) Continuous provision of MHPSS/PSS Primary school Learners, caregivers/family 					
Health & Prevention / Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR)	<p>WISH - Women's Integrated Sexual Reproductive Health Rights</p> <p>Project Goal Increase access to sexual and reproductive health services to vulnerable populations to enable them to have safe pregnancies and improve their sexual and reproductive health rights.</p> <p>Main Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate community sensitisation on disability related issues organised by Health Unit Management Committee (HUMC) and community health workers. 	<p>Vulnerable groups including women, girls, persons with disabilities and youth in hard to reach areas and refugee settlements.</p>	<p>Implemented in a consortium with 6 partners - <i>International Professional Practices Framework (IPPF)</i> Reproductive Health Uganda (RHU) Marie Stopes Uganda (MSU)</p>	<p>Mbale Arua Yumbe</p>	<p>Jan 2018 – March 2024</p>	<p>Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO)</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Facilitate Institutional sensitization on disability related issues organised by community health workers, health workers and HUMC (school sensitization)• Train adolescent girls including those with disabilities in Menstrual Hygiene Management (including making reusable pads)• Organize meetings at national and district level for advocacy, accountability and feedback about the project intervention (close out activity) (including support Organisations of Persons with Disabilities (OPD) to commemorate international disability days)		<i>International Rescue Committee (IRC)</i> <i>Development Media International (DMI)</i> <i>Options</i>			
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Train district stakeholders in disability inclusive Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH) and gender-based violence (Police, Local council leaders, representatives from the court, journalists, Community development officers) • Train (focal persons) staff of institutions of persons with disability to provide inclusive SRH information • Facilitate community sensitisation on disability related issues organised by HUMC and community health workers. 					
<p>Rehabilitation Services / Physical and functional rehabilitation</p>	<p><u>3D PETRA</u> - 3D Printing through Emergency Tele Rehabilitation Access</p> <p><u>Project Goal</u></p>	<p>200 refugees receiving 3D printed orthoses</p>	<p>CoRSU Hospital & Arua Regional</p>	<p>Omugo/Ofua and Imvepi refugee settlements</p>	<p>July 2021 – December 2022</p>	<p>Ministry of Foreign Affairs Luxembourg SYMPHASIS HI Own Funds</p>



	<p>Improving access to rehabilitation care for the refugees with disabilities through the digitalization of healthcare pathway combined with additive production (orthotics) in Uganda</p> <p><u>Main Activities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identification and referral of eligible beneficiaries for 3D Project• Assessment of identified beneficiaries for 3D Project• Clinical prescription of the orthoses, measurements, and scanning of the qualified assessed beneficiaries• Digital designing of the scans• Printing of digitally designed orthoses• Fitting of printed orthotics devices to 3D beneficiaries		Referral Hospital	in West Nile region		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of orthotics devices to 3D beneficiaries • Capacity building to the TEAM and Partners • Quarterly meetings with Ministry of Health (MOH) and partners to draft technical standards for 3D printing • Conduct research related to a cost-benefit analysis study of 3D printing technology in service delivery 					
<p>Social & Inclusion / Education Services</p>	<p>AIMS- Access to Inclusive Meaningful Services for children with disabilities</p> <p>Project Goal To ensure children in refugee settlements and hosting communities access education services.</p> <p>Main Activities</p>	<p>Children in Refugee settlements and host communities including children with disabilities</p>	<p>Implemented in a consortium with Save the Children (Lead), Plan International, Norwegian Refugee</p>	<p>West Nile (Terego, Yumbe, Obongi and Madi-Okolo)</p>	<p>January 2019 – September 2022</p>	<p>Education Cannot Wait (ECW)</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provision of teacher training programmes to accommodate children with disabilities in schools• Development of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) adapted materials for children with disabilities• Identification, referrals and making follow-ups of children with disabilities affected by Covid 19 school closure• Back to school campaigns• Provide remedial lessons for children with disabilities• Training of Headteachers on management of Inclusive Education• Provision of adapted learning materials for schools		Council (NRC) and Finn Church Aid (FCA)			
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of MHPSS services 					
Health & Prevention / Maternal and child health	<p>CHANCE Project- Child-Centred Holistic Approach of a Nurturing Care Enabling Environment.</p> <p>Project Goal Optimization of the Development and Quality of Life for Children (0-12 years). To Improve motor, language and social outcomes and quality of life for children (0-12), particularly the most vulnerable including children with disabilities or at risk of developmental delay.</p> <p>Main Activities/results</p>	<p>Children (0-12) years including children with disabilities or at risk of developmental delay.</p>	<p>National Union of Women with Disabilities in Uganda (NUWODU)</p>	<p>West Nile-Terego District</p>	<p>January 2022 – December 2026</p>	<p>Directorate-General for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid (DGD)</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Child Health and Development (0-12) is improved through improved access to quality comprehensive services• Caregivers are empowered and provide adequate care to children while improving their quality of life• Communities support children’s development (0-5) and quality of life (6-12), particularly the most vulnerable including children with disabilities or at risk of developmental delay• Quality delivery and monitoring of inclusive health and education services are improved• Support the implementation of enabling policies for NC in Uganda					
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<p>Social & Inclusion / Education Services</p>	<p><u>DiDa Schools project -</u> Disability Data in schools in Emergencies and protracted crises (EiEPC)</p> <p><u>Project Goal</u> The DiDa-Schools project will support the delivery of high-quality and adequate inclusive services in crises by; (1) generating evidence on the validity of the Child Functioning Module-Teacher Version (CFM-TV) to identify children with disabilities in schools; and (2) providing material to enhance the capacity of humanitarian stakeholders and their partners to choose adapted approaches and collect reliable and up-date disability data in schools and use it to inform programmatic choices</p> <p><u>Main Activities/results</u> Research phase</p>	<p>Children in school (5-12 years old) and possibly young people after 12 years-old</p>	<p>No partner</p>	<p>Kyaka II Refugee Settlement</p>	<p>May 2022 – July 2023</p>	<p>Education Cannot Wait (ECW)</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cognitive testing of the set of questions amongst teachers (face to face qualitative interviews) and amongst youth over 12 years-old. <p>Knowledge translation phase and uptake</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Production of a range of medias to present the research (one report, one infographic, one brief paper, one webinar), and if findings are positive to present the CFM-TV and promote its use in emergencies 					
<p>Social & Inclusion / Inclusive Humanitarian Action</p>	<p>LNOB-Leave No One Behind</p> <p>Project Goal Mainstreaming Disability in Global and Local Humanitarian Action in line with the IASC Guidelines on Inclusion.</p> <p>Main Activities</p>	<p>Target Group: Humanitarian actors International Organisations (IOs) / United Nations (UN) agencies German universities for</p>	<p>Christian Blind Mission (CBM) and Institute for International Law of Peace and Armed</p>	<p>Multi-country. Uganda - protracted refugee context</p>	<p>January 2022 – December 2024</p>	<p>Germany Federal Foreign Office (GFFO)</p>







	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity Development in line with the IASC Guidelines • Tool Development: Tools for the identification and monitoring of disability-specific needs, capacities and barriers to access protection and assistance • Technical (Surge) Support Mechanism: setup of a (sustainable) technical and/or surge support mechanism for disability-inclusion during rapid onset and in protracted emergencies • Accompanying Applied Research: Document promising and good humanitarian practices as well as innovations in the operationalisation of the IASC Guidelines in humanitarian responses 	<p>humanitarian studies / Humanitarian research institutes & initiatives</p> <p>The umbrella organisation of development and humanitarian NGOs in Germany (VENRO) and other German initiatives on capacity building</p>	<p>Conflict (IFHV)</p>			
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<p>Health & Prevention / Mental Health and PsychoSocial Support (MHPSS)</p> <p>Rehabilitation Services / Physical and functional rehabilitation</p>	<p>IRP - Integrated Rehabilitation Project for Kisoro Response.</p> <p>Project Goal Improve the psychosocial well-being and positive coping mechanisms of refugees, and Persons with Special Needs (PSNs) in Nyakabande Transit Center in Kisoro.</p> <p>Key activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of integrated rehabilitation services 	<p>The Project targets: Persons with Special Needs as well as Persons with Disabilities, injuries or chronic illnesses</p>	<p>APEAL Partners (CARE, NRC, WCH, IRC, Save the Children)</p>	<p>Kisoro District</p>	<p>May 2022 – January 2023</p>	<p>European Community Humanitarian Office (ECHO) Aktion Deutschland Hilft (ADH)</p>
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Donors

<p>PRM</p> 	<p>ECHO</p> 	<p>FCDO</p> 	<p>MOFA-LUX</p> 
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<p>Symphasis</p> 	<p>Education Cannot Wait</p> 	<p>Dir. Gen for Dev. Cooperation & Humanitarian Aid (DGD)</p> 	<p>GFFO</p> 
<p>ADH (Aktion Deutschland Hilft)</p> 