



The Republic of Uganda



Courtesy: UNHCR

Reasons for Displacement:

The Lord's Resistance Army's (LRA) brutal attacks on civilians in the northern parts of the country have been the main cause of displacement in Uganda.

The LRA, led by

Joseph Kony, has terrorized the lives of many through actions such as child kidnapping, bodily mutilation, and sexual violence. Developments in the countries neighboring Uganda have had an effect on the influx of refugees. The hostile conditions in the Democratic Republic of the Congo as well as insecurity and the food crisis in Somalia have led people to seek asylum in Uganda.

Refugee and IDP Communities:

With the signing of a cease-fire agreement between the Lord's Resistance Army and the Ugandan government in 2006, approximately 1.8 million internally displaced people have returned home. This has caused many camps to officially close. Due to financial and health issues or a lack of land, some IDPs are unable to leave the camps. For those that have returned they now face the difficulties of limited support and inadequate basic services or rebuilding their livelihoods. In 2006, Uganda adopted the Refugee Act, recognizing the right of the country's more than 140,000 refugees to work, move around the country, and live in the community rather than in special camps.

Assistance:

- RIJ has funded projects in Uganda for many years that support farmers in rehabilitation of the environment and promotion of environmental education in primary schools
- There are many other NGOs operating in Uganda including InterAid Uganda which aims at enhancing refugee protection in Kampala through its annual "Urban Refugee Programme"



Number of refugees:

385,513 residing in Uganda ;
7,191 originating from Uganda
[source: UNHCR]

Number of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs):

29,800

[source: IDMC]

History:

- 1962**— Independence, maintained commonwealth membership
- 1966**— Milton Obote becomes president
- 1971**— Idi Amin's stages coup and becomes president
- 1978**— Amin launches attack on Tanzania
- 1979**— Amin overthrown and Uganda National Liberation Front takes power; Yusufu Lule becomes president
- 1980**— Obote wins elections; Yoweri Museveni creates guerrilla group and conducts campaigns against the government
- 1985**— Obote is overthrown by General Tito Okello
- 1986**— Museveni's National Resistance Army takes power and Museveni becomes president
- 1995**— New Constitution is put into effect
- 2002**— Gov't signs peace deal with Ugandan National Rescue Front
- 2005**— Peace talks between Ugandan government and the Lords Resistance Army break down and LRA resumes attacks on civilians
- 2006**— First multiparty election since 1980, Museveni wins; cease-fire agreement with LRA
- 2011**— Museveni wins elections
- 2012**— Tens of thousands of DRC refugees enter Uganda; the government announces intention to withdraw from the UN-backed international peacekeeping missions
- 2014**— Over 1000 former fighters of the DRC rebel group M23 seek asylum in Uganda