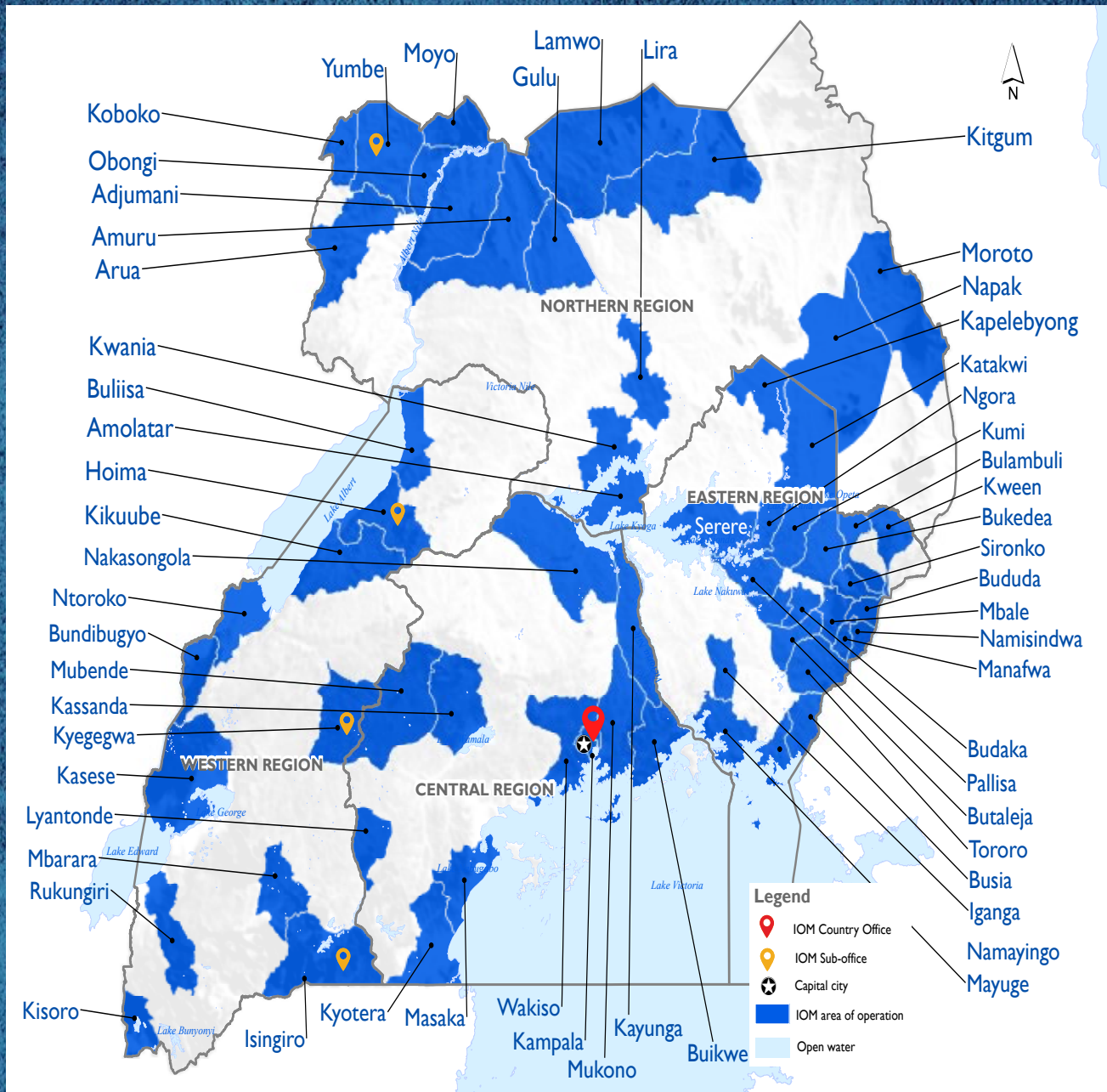




2022 Annual Report

International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Where We Worked in 2022



Districts of ●Adjumani ●Amolatar ●Amudat ●Amuru ●Arua ●Budaka ●Bududa ●Buikwe ●Bukedea ●Bulambuli ●Buliisa ●Bundibugyo ●Busia ●Butaleja ●Gulu ●Hoima ●Iganga ●Isingiro ●Kaabong ●Kampala ●Kapelebyong ●Kassanda ●Kasese ●Katakwi ●Kayunga ●Kibuku ●Kikuube ●Kisoro ●Kitgum ●Koboko ●Kumi ●Kwanja ●Kween ●Kyegegwa ●Kyotera ●Lamwo ●Lira ●Lyantonde ●Manafwa ●Masaka ●Mayuge ●Mbale ●Mbarara ●Moroto ●Mubende ●Mukono ●Moyo ●Nakasongola ●Namayingo ●Namisindwa ●Napak ●Ngora ●Ntoroko ●Obongi ●Pallisa ●Rakai ●Rukungiri ●Serere ●Soroti ●Sironko ●Tororo ●Yumbe ●Wakiso, and Refugee Settlements of Nakivale, Kyaka II, Kyangwali and Bidibidi

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MAIN COVER PHOTO

Presidents Yoweri Museveni of Uganda and Salva Kiir of South Sudan pose with senior officials from IOM and UNFCCC shortly after witnessing the signing of the Kampala Declaration on Migration, Environment and Climate Change (MECC) at Speke Resort Munyonyo, 29 July 2022. This crowned a 3-day regional high-level inter-ministerial conference on MECC hosted by the Uganda Government with support from IOM and UNFCCC. **(L-R):** UNFCCC Deputy Executive Secretary Ovais Sarmad, IOM Regional Director for East and Horn of Africa Mohammed Abdiker, President Kiir, President Museveni, IOM Deputy Director General Ugochi Daniels, and IOM Uganda Chief of Mission Sanusi Tejan Savage.

Foreword



Dear Reader,

It is my pleasure and honour to present to you the 2022 report of the Uganda Mission of the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

After the COVID-blighted years of 2020 and 2021, IOM activities picked up in earnest in 2022. The Mission scaled up efforts to support the Government to better serve the people of Uganda. Inevitably, a good part of our support was related to COVID-19, which continued to loom large in the country's health and socioeconomic sectors. In Amuru and Adjumani districts in the north, and Kyotera district in the south, IOM completed various interventions on the pandemic. These included addressing matters such as COVID-19 testing, vaccination and risk communication, as well as the renovation, expansion and equipping of a strategic health centre in Amuru. The latter will help the country deal with any future cross-border health risks, as will the work on permanent handwashing facilities.

As many thought that COVID-19 was over, news came of the outbreak of Ebola Virus Disease in

central Uganda. Again, IOM swung into action to support the Government to ensure that Ebola was contained within the epicenter, and then within the country's borders. That way, the Mission contributed to preventing a localized epidemic from becoming national, or worse still international.

A thread that runs through many of our programmes relates to sensitization or awareness creation, meant to empower the public with the right information so they can make the best decisions. We did this with messaging campaigns on preventing trafficking in persons, on taking the right paths to safe labour migration, proper electronic waste disposal in Bidibidi refugee settlement, hand hygiene, as well as preventing COVID-19 and Ebola.

Among our programmes worst hit by COVID-19 had been Resettlement and Movement Management and Migration Health Assessment, as well as the Canada Visa Application Centre, which, globally, is part of IOM's Immigration and Border Governance (IBG) programming. But in 2022, all these enjoyed near-normal traffic, as



Ministers and high-level representatives from the East and Horn of Africa shortly after signing the Kampala Declaration on Migration, Environment and Climate Change at Speke Resort Munyonyo, 29 July 2022. This was the climax of a three-day regional, high-level inter-ministerial conference hosted by the Uganda Government with support from IOM and UNFCCC.

they worked to support migration that is safe, orderly, regular and humane.

Our broader work on border governance, Migrant Protection and Assistance, Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergencies, as well as Displacement Tracking also thrived in 2022, as detailed in this report.

Migration Governance remains an important part of our work globally, and IOM has been supporting the National Coordination Mechanism on Migration for more than seven years. In 2022 the UN Resident Coordinator, Ms Susan Ngongi-Namondo, launched the country chapter of the UN Network on Migration (UNNoM). I have no doubt that that this new structure will help improve management of migration in the country.

Behind all the above programmatic work is an excellent support structure that makes work

possible. I would therefore like to commend our Programme Coordination and Support Unit, Office of Staff Security, as well as the Resource Management teams, including Finance, Procurement, Logistics, ICT and Human Resources. The HR unit has been particularly busy in recent years, with the Mission now boasting of more than 200 personnel.

I end with a vote of thanks to the Government of Uganda, to all our donors, the United Nations fraternity, and all partners and service providers for making it possible to do the work we did in 2022.

Sanusi Tejan SAVAGE

Chief of Mission

IOM IN UGANDA

Established in 1951, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits both migrants and society in general. As the United Nations Migration Agency, IOM works with its partners to assist in meeting the growing operational challenges of migration, advance understanding of migration issues, encourage social and economic development through migration, and uphold the wellbeing and human rights of migrants. The IOM Constitution gives explicit recognition to the link between migration and economic, social and cultural development, as well as to the principle of freedom of movement of persons. IOM has 175 member states, 8 countries holding observer Status, and offices in more than 100 countries.

IOM works in the four broad areas of migration management: migration and development, facilitating migration, regulating migration, and addressing forced migration. Cross-cutting activities include the promotion of international migration law, policy debate and guidance, protection of migrants' rights, migration health and the gender dimension of migration.

In Uganda, the IOM mission was established in 1988 and has since been supporting the Government to address migration challenges, and building capacities of relevant stakeholders. In 2022, besides its head office in Kampala, IOM had sub-offices at Entebbe

airport and in Nakivale, Kyangwali, Kyaka II and Bidibidi refugee settlements. IOM also operates a Transit Centre for refugees being readied for resettlement, and the Canada Visa Application Centre, both in Kampala.

IOM implements a range of programmatic interventions in areas such as Resettlement and Movement Management; Humanitarian Emergencies; Migration Health (Assessments and Travel Assistance, Promotion, and Assistance for Crisis-Affected Populations); Labour Mobility and Social Inclusion; Migrant Protection and Assistance (including counter-trafficking and return and reintegration assistance for stranded migrants), Immigration and Border Governance; and Migration Governance and Data; as well as Migration, Environment and Climate Change.

In terms of broad objectives, IOM Uganda works to:

- Enhance capacity, knowledge and dialogue on migration, migration management, and migration policymaking among relevant stakeholders.
- Promote safe and regular migration, in full respect of the human rights of all migrants, with a view to improving development outcomes of migration for migrants and communities.
- Build and enhance capacity for responses to migration dimensions of humanitarian crises, with a focus both on vulnerable mobile populations and affected communities.



Some of IOM Uganda's longest-serving staff members pose with Chief of Mission Sanusi Tejan Savage (4th Left) shortly after receiving their Long Service Award certificates, April 2022.

SOME OF OUR KEY PARTNERS



●Office of the Prime Minister ●Ministry of Internal Affairs ● Ministry of Foreign Affairs ●Ministry of Health ● Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development ● Ministry of Water and Environment
 ●European Union ●Embassy of the United States of America ●Embassy of Japan ●Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) ●Global Fund to End Modern Slavery ● Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) ●East African Community Secretariat ● IOM Development Fund ● Swedish Development Cooperation Agency ● IOM Global Assistance Fund ● Private Health sector (Clinics, Hospitals and laboratories) Ministry of Works and Transport ● Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA)
 ●Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) ● Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany ● Uganda Association of External Recruitment Agencies ●District Local Governments ●UNHCR ●World Health Organization ●Resettlement Support Centre Nairobi ● Canadian Consulate, Kampala ● Embassy of Sweden ● Embassy of Norway ●Embassy of the Netherlands ●Embassy of Belgium ● British High Commission ● United Nations Country Team ● VFS Global ● Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) ●USAID ●Uganda Coalition against Trafficking in Persons (UCATIP) ●Humanitarian Assistance and Development Services ● Uganda Red Cross Society ● Lutheran World Federation ● Mercy Corps ● Makerere University Centre for Climate Change Research and Innovations ● Platform for Labour Action ● United States Bureau for International Narcotics Law Enforcement Affairs (INL)

From the seabed to space,

are proud of being a
ple business and are
d to a more inclusive
ainable world for
re generations.

IOM Director General Antonio Vitorino (3rd from Right) with Uganda's First Deputy Prime Minister Rebecca Kadaga (2nd Right) and other IOM and Uganda Government officials in Sharm-el-Sheikh during the COP27 conference. With them, the State Minister for Water, Hon Beatrice Atim Anywar (R), Left is IOM Uganda Chief of Mission Sanusi Tejan Savage, followed by Special Regional Advisor for Sub-Saharan Africa Aissata Kane, Special Envoy on Climate Change Caroline Dumas and Uganda Commissioner for Climate Change Margaret Athieno Mwebesa

Migration, Environment and Climate Change (MECC)

As global temperatures rise, Migration, Environment and Climate change (MECC) are increasingly becoming interlinked phenomena. With increasing frequency, extreme weather conditions are affecting crop production and pasture for livestock not just in Uganda but the East and Horn of Africa region. This is drastically affecting livelihoods and often results in involuntary migration. IOM works to address human mobility challenges associated with environmental factors and to increase resilience and adaptation towards climate change.



SDG 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.



GCM Objective 2: Minimize the adverse drivers and structural factors that compel people to leave their countries of origin.



President Yoweri Museveni (2nd Left) greets officials from the Ministry of Water and Environment, IOM and UNFCCC on arrival at Speke Resort Munyonyo for the closure of the Regional High-level Inter-ministerial Conference on Migration, Environment and Climate Change.

For IOM Uganda, one of the highlights of 2022 was the Regional High-level Inter-Ministerial Conference on Migration, Environment and Climate Change, held at Speke Resort Munyonyo from 27 to 29 July. The conference was hosted in Kampala by Government of Uganda with support from IOM and the UNFCCC-AfDB Regional Collaboration Centre (RCC).

Among other goals, the conference aimed to develop a harmonized regional voice on addressing climate change-induced mobility and displacement, and mainstreaming it in international discourse on climate change.

Presidents Yoweri Museveni of Uganda and Salva Kiir of South Sudan spoke at the closing ceremony. They witnessed as ministers and high-level representatives from 16 countries signed a landmark declaration, calling for a more integrated approach and response to climate change. This “Kampala Ministerial Declaration on Migration, Environment and Climate Change” was one of IOM’s highlights at the 27th session of the UNFCCC

Conference of the Parties (COP27) in Egypt later in November.

Among other issues, the declaration called for greater cooperation to address desertification and land degradation; unsustainable use ecosystems and the impact of extreme weather events. Other issues were unplanned rural-urban migration due to climate change and disasters; paucity of data on climate change-induced mobility; and the limitations of partnerships to address climate change-related crises.

Key Report Crowns Data Project

In March 2022, IOM Uganda launched a report into a yearlong research on migration, environment and climate change. The study found ample evidence that thousands of people are being forced to migrate due to climate change and environmental degradation.

The research covered the eastern Uganda



Uganda's State Minister for Environment, Hon Beatrice Atim Anywar, signs a copy to launch the report of the IOM-commissioned study on climate mobility in eastern Uganda, March 2022

districts of Bududa, Katakwi and Amudat. It was conducted for IOM by the Makerere University Centre for Climate Change Research and Innovations (MUCCRI), in collaboration with Uganda's Ministry of Water and Environment.

The study report, "Assessing the Evidence: Migration, Environment and Climate Change Nexus in Uganda", was the culmination of a two-year Data for Development project, financed by the IOM Development Fund (IDF).

According to the report, "Both the slow-onset and sudden-onset climatic and environmental changes have a strong influence on population migration patterns in Uganda, but in different ways." Sudden-onset events (floods and landslides) cause destruction of livelihoods and displace the affected populations from their homes mostly temporarily, but in some cases permanently.

On the other hand, the study found, many people have migrated and/or are expected to migrate due to gradual land and environmental deterioration and the impact this has on their livelihoods.

The report was launched in Kampala by

Honourable Beatrice Atim Anywar, the State Minister for Environment. She said that evidence such as that captured by the study would give the Government more impetus to act.

Besides producing the study report, the IDF project conducted various trainings on Migration, Environment, and Climate Change (MECC) for key staff in government institutions and other partners. These included Uganda Red Cross Society, Makerere University, and the Ministry of Local Government. The training contributed to improved stakeholder understanding of the MECC nexus.

Solar Electronic Waste Project

Since 2021, IOM is piloting a project on managing electronic waste in Bidibidi Refugee Settlement in Yumbe district. Funded by Innovation Norway, the project involves IOM and private sector partners BRIGHT Products, Solvoz, and Total Energies Off-Grid Solar Solutions (TEOSS).

Towards the end of the year, IOM engaged

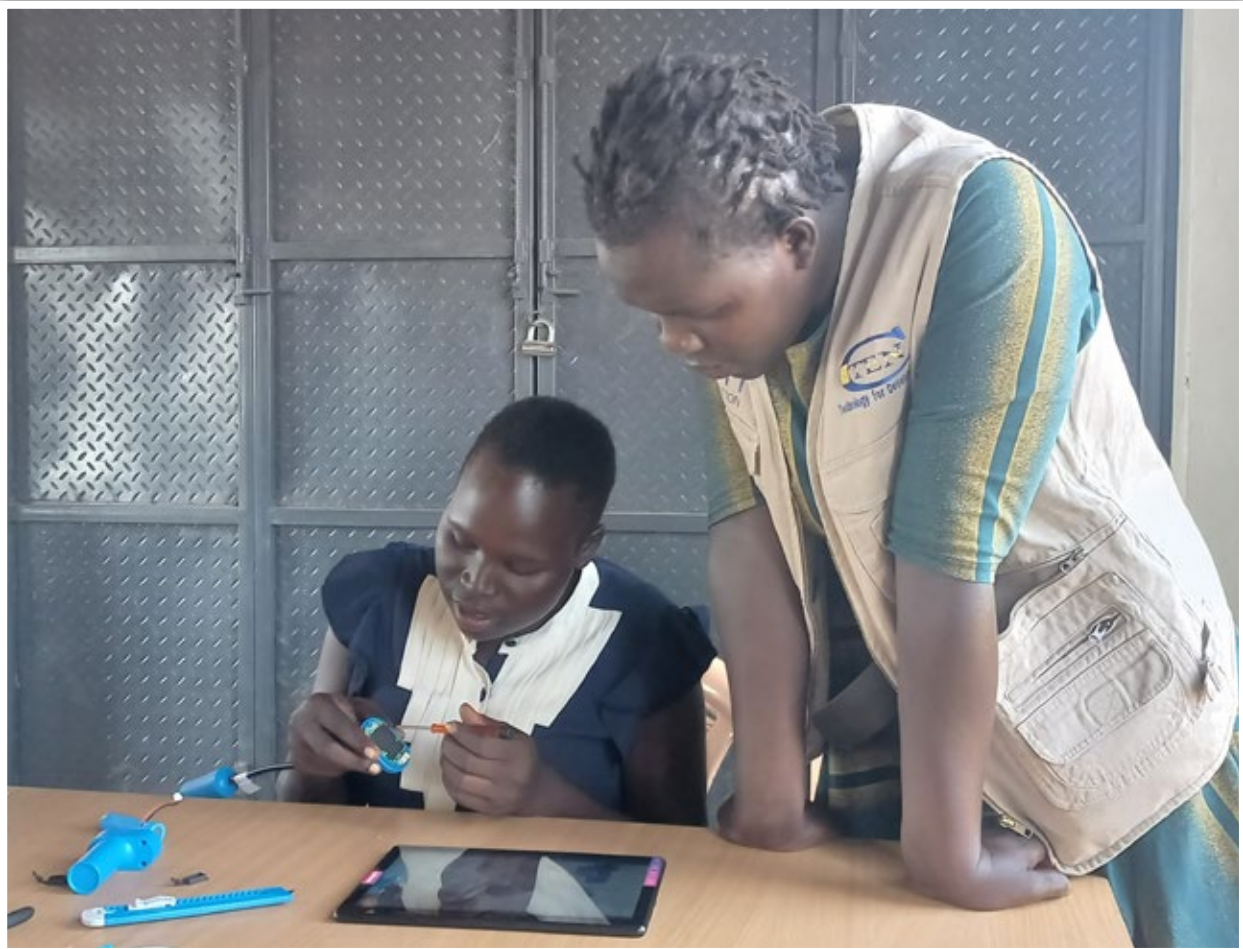
Mercy Corps to replace the Community Technology Empowerment Network (CTEN), as the implementing partner. The project, “Greening Humanitarian Response through Recovery, Repair and Recycling of Solar Products in Displacement Settings”, aims to enhance environmental sustainability in the settlement by minimizing improper disposal of solar products through a circular economy.

Partners are working to establish e-waste management systems by offering solar lantern repair services and increasing public awareness of the environmental and health-related dangers of poor e-waste disposal. In the process, the project will also create community jobs.

In 2022, IOM, BRIGHT, TEOSS and CTEN trained technicians in lantern and lithium-

ion battery testing, repair, and assembly. The technicians, selected from both the refugee and host communities, were able to repair dozens of solar lanterns. Additionally, in 2022, TEOSS successfully installed and tested Batlab, a solarized mobile container built upon Aceleron’s patented technology. Here, lithium batteries from unrepairable solar were reassembled into battery packs to be used to power businesses, homes, health centres, among other sites.

After training the technicians and trial runs, the mass repair of solar lanterns and production of battery packs kicked off, spearheaded by the newly trained community technicians. By the end of the year, the project had repaired or serviced 1,133 lanterns and handed them back to their owners.



Young Women technicians repair a solar lantern after they were trained by IOM in Bidibidi refugee settlement. This was under an environmental project funded by Innovation Norway.

Policy Coherence Project Starts

In late 2022, IOM launched a project to improve the coherence of Uganda's policies related to Migration and Climate Change. Funded by the IOM Development Fund (IDF), the three-year project seeks to contribute to the Government of Uganda's efforts to effectively address environment and climate change-induced migration at the national, district and community levels.

The project, Improving Migration and Climate Change Policy Coherence in Uganda, aims to achieve this in three ways:

- Support ongoing policy efforts at the national and district level
- Build capacity among government stakeholders to ensure migration is integrated into climate change data collection tools
- Contribute to addressing the impacts of climate change at the local level to ensure

that communities have the tools to adapt to climate change impacts in their daily lives.

By engaging with stakeholders at all three levels, the project will ensure that policy implementation reaches district and community levels. Implementation activities are expected to start in the New Year.

MECC PROJECTS IN 2022

1. Greening Humanitarian Responses Through Recovery, Repair, And Recycling of Solar Products in in Displacement Settings (2021–2023)

Donor: Innovation Norway.

2. Improving Migration and Climate Change Policy Coherence in Uganda (2022–2025)

Donor: IOM Development Fund (IDF).

3. Data for Development: Understanding Environmental Migration in Uganda for Policy Development (2019–2022).

Donor: IOM Development Fund (IDF).



6 Community youths were trained as solar technicians and deployed to repair lanterns.



2,358

Lithium-ion solar batteries were collected and tested in the battery laboratory, of which **1,801** could be re-used to manufacture battery packs.



1,333

broken solar lanterns were repaired and handed back to their owners.



4,291

Community members (2612 M; 1,679F) were reached with information and best practices on proper re-use, repair, recycling, and disposal of solar products.



Finance Minister Matia Kasajja speaks at a donor conference aimed at supporting Uganda's national plan to prepare for, prevent, build resilience against, and respond to disasters. With funds from European Union Humanitarian Aid, IOM supported the organization of the conference, as part of its commitment to saving lives and helping populations move out of harm's way

Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Response

Under the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework in Uganda, IOM and sister UN agencies commit to support the Government to improve resilience of the population. In contributing to this goal, IOM works to reduce the risk of adverse conditions such as natural disasters, but also to assist affected populations to get back on their feet.



Sustainable
Development
Goals (SDGs)

Goal 1.5: Build the resilience of the poor and vulnerable and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other shocks and disasters.
SDG 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.

GCM Objective 2: Minimize the adverse drivers and structural factors that compel people to leave their countries of origin.

GCM Objective 7: Address and reduce vulnerabilities in migration.



Global Compact
for Migration



A district official speaks at a workshop to harmonize the national disaster rapid assessment tool in Entebbe

Uganda remains vulnerable to various types of disasters, especially natural calamities that often claim lives. Since 2021, IOM has been supporting the Central government and local authorities in over 20 districts to enhance their capacity to plan and respond to disasters.

For Instance, in July 2022, torrential rains in eastern Uganda caused mudslides and floods that killed at least 29 people, leaving trail of destruction and displacement. A day later, the Sironko district Environment Officer, Teddy Nabukwasi, acknowledged that disaster response planning had the potential to limit adverse impacts of extreme weather events.

“At least you IOM did well to train many of us in districts and sub-counties in the region,” Nabukwasi said. “When we are discussing in the District Disaster Management Committee (DDMC), you can see that people know what to do, even if the resources are not there.”

In 2022, IOM continued implementing the project “Strengthening National and Local Disaster Preparedness and Response Capacities in

Uganda”, funded by European Union Humanitarian Aid. IOM trained members of District and Sub County Disaster Management Committees from districts such as Kayunga, Nakasongola, Butaleja, Pallisa, Bududa, Bulambuli, Manafwa, Bukedea, Kumi, Ngora, Katakwi, Serere, Amuru, Amudat, Amolatar, Kwania, Buliisa, Ntoroko, Bundibugyo and Kasese. The officials learnt how to effectively collect and manage data, and use it to respond in case of disasters.

Under this project, among the key outputs IOM supported was operationalization of contingency planning and funding in the country. In September, with support from IOM, the Government had launched the National Disaster Risk Management Plan, at a donor conference aimed at mobilizing financing.

The NDRM plan seeks to help Government effectively plan, resource-mobilize and respond to disaster risks. The plan had been developed at the behest of Cabinet and with support from UNDP, and the conference provided an opportunity to present it to donors and a range of stakeholders.



181
Members of 20 district and subcounty Disaster Management Committees were trained on various aspects of disaster contingency planning and response



14
multi-hazard infographic sheets and other data reports were developed and disseminated, showing which parts of Uganda were affected by various disasters.

Two months later, IOM again worked with the Office of the Prime Minister and the Civil Society Advocacy Group (CSBAG) to organize a national dialogue to chart the course to operationalizing the plan. The meeting brought together various stakeholders, including Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies, UN agencies, Development Partners, Embassies, District Local Governments, civil society and the media.

Among other issues, participants discussed the status of the NDRM Plan, its possible linkage into the Government of Uganda (GoU) Contingencies Fund, as well as other partner engagement strategies for its operationalization. They also discussed the status of the contingency planning process for targeted policy action towards mitigation, preparedness and response to disasters in Uganda.

Data

Using its displacement tracking matrix systems, IOM continues to coordinate production and dissemination of data to support humanitarian responses to disasters. In the year under review at least 22 data reports were developed and disseminated on Government and partner-managed platforms. These included Uganda multi-hazard infographic sheets, flow monitoring dashboards and population mobility reports.

Other highlights of 2022 included:

- IOM continued to mobilize key stakeholders for activities aimed at advancing the National Disaster Preparedness and Management Bill. The unit supported the Office of the Prime Minister to host the National Disaster Preparedness and Management Bill Principles workshop in June, with good participation from various ministries, departments and agencies, UN agencies, Uganda Red Cross, and Ugandan and international civil society organizations.
- Monthly coordination meetings and the Disaster Preparedness and Management (DPM) Platform were reinitiated, working closely with the OPM. IOM continued to engage with partners to coordinate interventions, harmonize disaster tools, and mobilize resources to strengthen cost-effectiveness and promote collaboration. This enabled partners to discuss OPM's disaster Rapid Needs Assessment and other DRR related tools to have one reporting tool to avoid duplication of data.
- Because of the great need for disaster preparedness, the donor, European Union Humanitarian Aid, committed additional funding to IOM to continue project activities and cover more disaster-prone districts.
- IOM, in partnership with the Uganda Red Cross Society, conducted a simulation exercise in Katakwi District which was also attended by Ngora DDMC members. In the exercise, IOM delivered NFI kits to Katakwi and Ngora that would be prepositioned stock for the districts in case a disaster occurred.
- 50 beneficiaries were successfully identified and issued URCS cards for identification during the distribution. This was through the conducted assessments based on the OPM Needs assessment tool, when volunteers moved from house to house identifying beneficiaries based on the agreed criteria.



IOM Uganda Chief of Mission Mr Sanusi Tejan Savage (2nd Left) hands over medical equipment to authorities at Bibia Health centre in Amuru district. This was after IOM and the EU renovated and expanded Bibia at a cost of USD 238,000 to support the border district's response to COVID-19. Centre is Dr Joseph Okware, the Ministry of Health Director of Health Services (Governance and Regulation); Right is IGAD Head of Mission Lucy Daxbacher

Migration Health

In support of efforts to ensure that migration is safe, and improve the health and well-being of migrants, IOM implements programmes and projects in Migration Health Assessment and Travel Assistance, Health Assistance for Crisis Affected Populations in a migration context, and Migration Health Promotion.



Sustainable
Development
Goals (SDGs)

SDG 3: Promote Health and Wellbeing (including tackling Malaria, HIV and Tuberculosis; sexual and reproductive health services; and managing global health risk)

SDG 10.7: Facilitate Safe, orderly and regular migration.

GCM Objective 1: Collect and utilize accurate and disaggregated data to inform policies.

GCM Objective 7: Addressing vulnerabilities in migration.

GCM Objective 15: Provide access to basic services for migrants.





IOM deploys a team of screeners and enumerators at Busia point of entry, to support the Ebola Virus Disease Response. This was part of a migration health project funded by USAID through WHO.

Health Promotion and Health Emergencies Assistance

The year 2022 had been expected to be one of completing the recovery from the tagnation COVID-19 and returning the country to the path of economic growth and development. Instead, the year was characterized by new disease outbreaks such as Measles, yellow fever, and the dreadful Ebola Virus Disease (EVD), which affected migrants and host communities.

The biggest health story of the year came on 20 September 2022, when the Ministry of Health declared an outbreak of Ebola Sudan. It followed a positive lab result of samples from a 24-year-old man from Ngabano Village, Madudu Sub County, Mubende district, who was being managed at the regional referral hospital. More cases followed and three weeks later, President Yoweri Museveni imposed a 21-day lockdown in Mubende and Kassanda districts, to contain an outbreak that eventually registered 142 confirmed cases with 55 confirmed deaths.

During the reporting period, the Health Promotion /Emergency Health unit implemented four projects with related outcomes. These were funded by the US Agency for International Development (USAID) through WHO; European Union, Swedish Development Cooperation Agency (SDC) and the

German Technical Cooperation Agency (GIZ).

IN CONTEXT

IOM's Health Promotion programme aims at improving access and utilisation to high-quality services for vulnerable populations, including migrants and host communities. Health Assistance for Crisis-Affected Populations is an integrated component of IOM's overall humanitarian response for vulnerable migrants and their host communities. IOM collaborates with various partners including World Health Organization (WHO) and Ministry of Health to create synergies and coordinated responses to epidemics and pandemics. Among other objectives, IOM's health response to humanitarian and public health emergencies aims to provide lifesaving support and protect human dignity.

Containing Ebola Virus Disease

In collaboration with national and district taskforces, IOM implemented a project to "Strengthen the Capacity of Priority Points of Entry and Cross-Border Locations to Respond to the EVD Epidemic and Prevent Cross-Border Transmission". IOM worked under the Surveillance, Logistics and Risk Communication pillars with a view to containing Ebola first within the epicentre districts, and then within national borders. This complemented actions of the Government and other partners to ensure that the outbreak did not escalate into a national, regional or international crisis.

IOM supported the ministry of Health to

strengthen operational capacities at the PoEs and points of congregation, including addressing population mobility dimensions. This helped inform decision making on EVD, strengthen capacity of health and non-health personnel in surveillance, early detection, infection prevention and control, suspected case management, and risk communication.

IOM's intervention targeted 10 priority points of entry (POEs), including those bordering Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Kenya and South Sudan. The action supported 6 points of congregation within Mubende and Kassanda districts through screening of travellers and communities to detect any signs and symptoms associated with EVD and link the Alert cases to Health care.

On 11 January 2023 WHO and the Uganda Ministry of Health declared the country free of Ebola, after 142 confirmed cases and 55 confirmed deaths. IOM continued capacity building activities to improve the healthcare system readiness to respond to outbreaks of Ebola and other major infectious diseases

Equitable access to COVID-19 Vaccines

During the reporting year, IOM completed a project that promoted COVID-19 vaccination in Amuru and Kyotera districts. Funded by the SDC, this project was delivered in partnership with the Ministry of Health and in collaboration with district authorities and community leaders. It increased awareness

about the advantages and safety of vaccination, encouraged uptake of vaccines, and supported delivery of vaccines and vaccinators into migrant and vulnerable communities.

By the time it ended, the project had organised 40 community dialogues in the project sites that entailed engaging with communities, including key influencers. Social mobilization by VHTs and distribution of information flyers helped to increase the turnout for vaccination outreaches. This initiative worked through 1,157 people that supported to cascade the Health information to their communities hence increasing the uptake of vaccines.

In the two districts, at least 43,588 individuals (4,475 migrants and 39,113 Non-migrants) were reached with vaccines with support from the SDC project. According to data from the Health Ministry's EPIVAC system, 115,513 individuals were vaccinated in Amuru and Kyotera, translating into a 38 per cent contribution by the project.

WASH Initiatives around Ports of Entry

Another project that closed in 2022 was funded by the GIZ through the East African Community Secretariat, with the aim of increasing awareness and practice of sound hygiene to prevent the spread diseases such as COVID-19. The project sites were Elegu border post (Amuru district) and Mutukula border post and Kasensero landing site (both in Kyotera district).



Nurse Albert Anywarac uses some of the newly donated equipment to examine a girl as her mother watches at Bibia Health Centre. IOM refurbished the facility courtesy of a European Union-funded IGAD project on COVID-19



Amuru Resident District Commissioner Stephen Odong Latek washes hands at the new permanent handwashing facility built by IOM's Migration Health division at Elegu, at the border with South Sudan. This was shortly after IOM handed over the facility, meant to control the spread of diseases including COVID-19

At its closure, the project had trained and supported community influencers, health workers and community task forces, who helped to organize community dialogues and door-to-door campaigns to influence behaviour change. A total of 141,190 persons were reached with key health-related messages on COVID-19 and related diseases.

In addition to various supplies and equipment (PPE, IPC) distributed, IOM completed construction of three permanent hand washing facilities at Elegu, Mutukula and Kasensero. These were commissioned and handed over to the relevant district authorities, who pledged to maintain them and hence prevent cross-border disease transmission.

Addressing COVID-19's Socioeconomic Impact

Also completed successfully in 2022 was the EU-IGAD COVID-19 response programme, a regional initiative that aimed at mitigating the socioeconomic impact of the pandemic and lay the foundation for long-term recovery. This was funded by the European Union in Amuru and Adjumani districts in northern Uganda. The

project supported recruitment and remuneration of health workers and other frontline responders, and donated COVID-19 test-kits, personal protective equipment, and supplies for infection prevention and control. The latter included disposable gloves, N-95 masks, disposable surgical masks, washable cloth masks, disposable aprons, gumboots, face shields, safety shoe covers, and heavy-duty gloves.

Among the supported sites included Adjumani Hospital, where a mobile lab was set up; the Central Public Health Laboratory; Bibia health centre III and Elegu border post. Below are some of the project achievements

Health

IOM supported screening operations at Elegu, reaching 616,283 people (300,282 females, 316,001 males), of whom 71 (26 females, 45 males) were referred for further medical support.

IOM supported COVID-19 testing by frontline responders in Adjumani and Elegu PoEs. In total, 3,471 people (1,435 females, 2,036 males) were tested for COVID-19, of whom 121 people tested positive.

Bibia Health Centre

The crowning activity of the project was the handover of the newly reconstructed, renovated and expanded Bibia Health centre III, the designated referral facility for Elegu PoE in case of a major disease outbreak. This segment cost at least UGX 920 Million (USD 238,000). At a colourful ceremony attended by representatives of the Ministry of Health, European Union, IGAD, district authorities and key partners, the project handed over an assortment of Medical equipment and other supplies to support continuity of health care in the area.

WASH

To strengthen the response within health facilities in the project sites, IOM procured, and distributed IPC/ WASH items aimed at reducing the infection rate.

A total of 47,960 pieces of WASH hygiene supplies were distributed to 500 households and two schools in communities around Elegu PoE, benefiting 4,087 people.

Mental Health & Psycho-Social Support

IOM conducted training on MHPSS and reached 52 frontline responders and health workers (19 females, 33 males) in and around Elegu and Bibia HC III. In

addition, a total of 97 (67 males, 30 females) health and frontline workers were trained in GBV and PSEA.

A total of 496 individuals (221 females, 275 males) were provided with MHPSS. These included GBV survivors and individuals who tested positive for COVID-19 and were provided with PFA. Support was given individually and most of the cases were travellers from various parts of the country and abroad. At least 23 GBV survivors were referred to different health facilities for further treatment and care.

Risk Communication & Education

IOM conducted community engagement and public awareness campaigns aimed at improving the knowledge, attitudes, practices, and beliefs related to COVID-19. This included integrated messages on COVID-19 prevention measures, vaccination, and clarifying myths and misconceptions. Under this segment, 28,992 people were reached.

RCCE activities included running spot messages on radio stations, road drives, information sessions, suggestion boxes, community dialogues, stakeholder meetings, and door-to-door campaigns conducted by trained VHTs around Elegu.



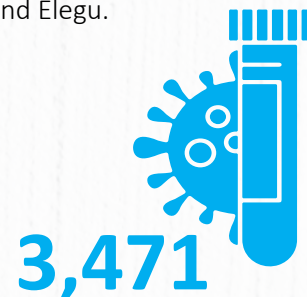
920M/=

UGX (nearly \$238,000): the cost of renovation, expansion and equipping of Bibia Health Centre III



616,283

Total number of people (300,282 Female and 316,001 Males) reached through temperature screening at Elegu over the course of the EU-IGAD project.



3,471

COVID tests directly supported by IOM in, Adjumani and Elegu



47,960

Pieces of water, sanitation and hygiene supplies distributed to 500 households and two schools in communities around Elegu



3,445

People vaccinated against COVID-19 through IOM-supported outreaches in Amuru and Kyotera districts. This brought the total number for the entire length of the SDC project to 43,588



The IOM Uganda Chief of Mission, Mr Sanusi Tejan Savage (3rd Left) and senior managers and staff pose with Sister Josephine Kirabo (4th Left), the in-charge of Bujumbura health centre in Hoima town, during a field visit. The health centre partners with IOM to offer medical assessment to refugees due for resettlement to third countries. The IOM team included Great Lakes, West and Central Africa Regional Head of Operations Konan Romaric N'GUESSAN (2nd Right), Chief Migration Health Officer Dr Risatul Islam (3rd Right), Head of Procurement and Logistics Henry Ojiambo (2nd Left), Security Assistant Oliver Nabawanuka (R) and Operations Assistant Catherine Anena Okello (L)

Migration Health Assessment Programme

The Migration Health Assessment Programme is a key pillar in IOM's efforts to ensure that migration, when and where it must happen, is safe, both for migrants and host communities.

The year 2022 witnessed further recovery from the operational paralysis occasioned by the COVID-19 pandemic, as the demand for health services inched back towards pre-COVID highs. During the reporting period, the programme assisted at least 16,735 refugees and prospective migrants, which was 66 per cent up from the previous year's figure.

The most popular destinations were Canada, USA, United Kingdom and Australia.

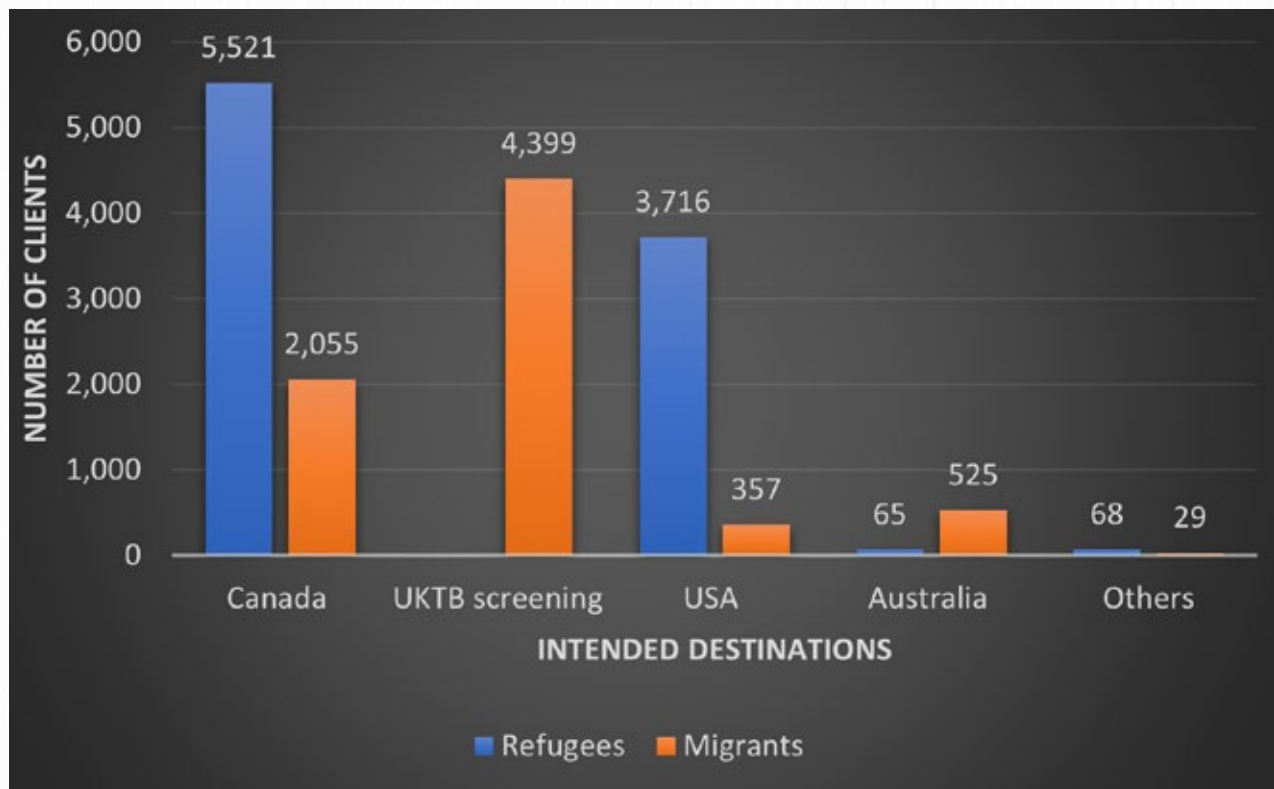
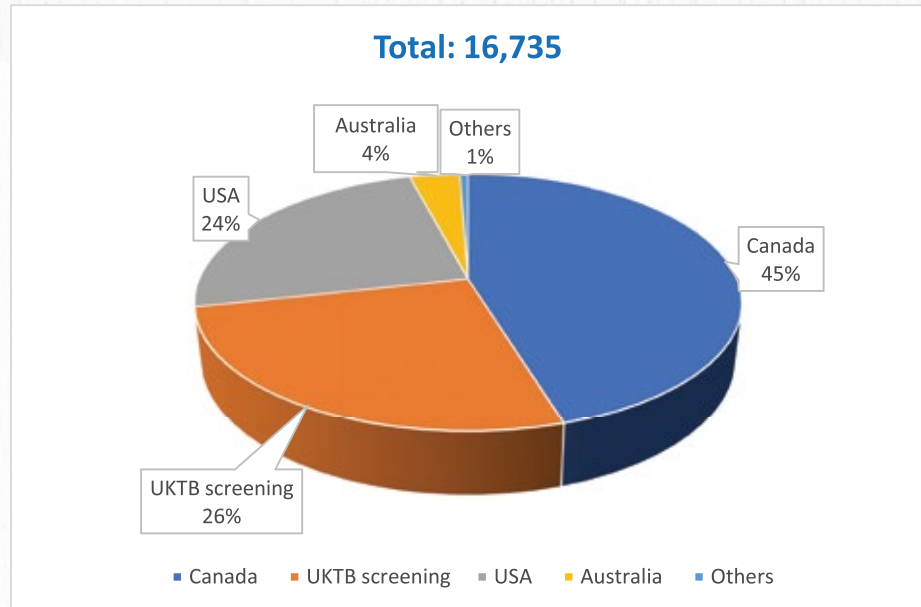
A major challenge during the year was the outbreak of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) in September 2022. Whenever and wherever major disease epidemics occur, the key responsibility for migration management is to prevent cross-border transmission of disease. Hence, faced with EVD,

IN CONTEXT

IOM Uganda's Migration Health Assessment Center (MHAC) in Kampala is a one-stop provider of health assessment and travel assistance for refugees and prospective migrants to countries like Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, UK, USA, and others such as France. With more than 50 highly trained and experienced staff, MHAC conducts health assessments and DNA sample collection based on the technical instruction defined by the admitting countries. Since 2020, the programme has also been supporting the COVID-19 response both by providing testing and care to UN personnel and their dependants, and seconding doctors, nurses and other medical cadres to the Health Promotion/Health Assistance interventions.

IOM responded by setting up three more temporary transit centres in Kampala, which helped to increase predeparture surveillance. These centres were able to supplement the work at IOM's permanent Transit Centre in Nakasero.

Number of Health Assessment Clients per Intended Destination in 2022



Additional measures to contain EVD included surveillance for designated travelers in the Settlements of Kyaka, Kyangwali and Nakivale before departure to Kampala as a precautionary measure. Consequently, more locum nurses were recruited, to help manage the increased workload at MHAC and the transit centers.

COVID-19 First Line of Defence (FLoD)

The FLoD unit within the Migration Health Assessment Programme continued to offer COVID-related services to all UN staff and dependants

and certain categories of IOM beneficiaries. The services included PCR testing, remote clinical monitoring, home-based management of cases and COVID-19 vaccination. Later in the year, the FLoD programme, which had been due to expire in October, was extended to March 2023, which was a testament to its usefulness.

During the year, the FLoD unit collected 9,579 COVID-19 specimen samples, monitored 678 positive cases for isolation and administered 948 doses of vaccines.

...Area
...sterilize and kill viruses,
...prevent the cross-infection of viruses.



Resettlement and Movement Management

With 1.6 million refugees in 2022, Uganda had the largest refugee population in Africa, and the third-largest in the world. For most of the refugees in sub-Saharan Africa, the chance of returning home anytime soon has dimmed and local reintegration is not possible. IOM's resettlement programme allows vulnerable refugees and migrants to permanently move to countries that offer them protection to start new life. IOM's Resettlement and Movement Management division (RMM) emphasizes safe and dignified movement of migrants, using a comprehensive, rights-based and humane approach.

IOM Uganda also hosts the office of the regional Head of Operations for the Great Lakes, West and Central Africa, covering 28 countries.





The USA Assistant Secretary of State for Population, Refugees and Migration, Ms Julieta Valls Noyes, takes a keen interest in the writing of a child about to be resettled from Uganda to the USA. This was at the IOM Transit Centre in Kampala.

History broadly defines the greatest nations by how they treat their vulnerable inhabitants. Uganda hosts the third largest refugee population in the world (more than 1.54 million), going to great lengths to have their rights respected. IOM Uganda continues to facilitate assistance to migrants and refugees in a safe, orderly and dignified manner.

The year 2022 came with multiple challenges for the Resettlement and Movement Management division of IOM Uganda, including COVID-19 and Ebola Virus Disease. However, this did not blunt the team's dedication to serve vulnerable populations.

With the support of senior management, RMM Uganda remained resilient and directly assisted the resettlement of 4,740 refugees and migrants to Canada, United States of America, Norway, Sweden, Australia, Iceland, Finland, United Kingdom, Germany, Netherlands and New Zealand.

RMM Uganda further contributed to facilitating the resettlement of special vulnerable groups (Afghan and Iraqi migrants) to Sweden,

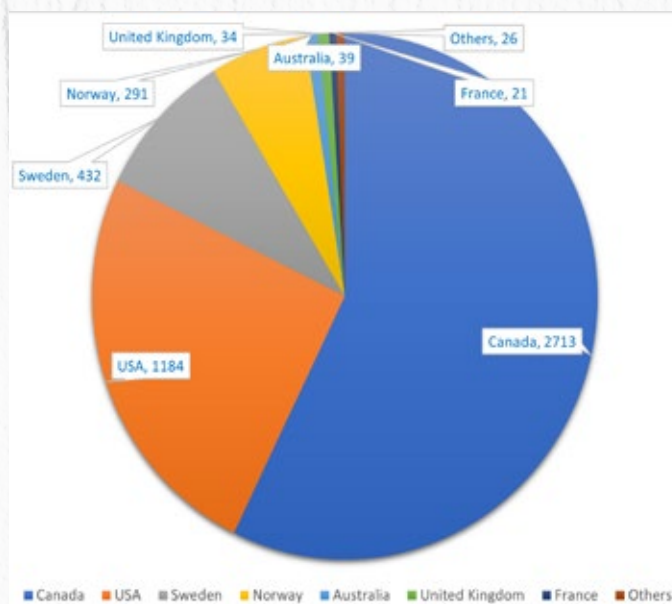
Canada and the USA. This was at the request of the resettlement countries and with the endorsement of the Government of Uganda. It was achieved through the support of, and coordination with, Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), Uganda Civil Aviation Authority, Directorate of Citizenship and Immigration Control (DCIC) in the Ministry of Internal Affairs, UNHCR and the governments of the resettlement countries.

The unit supported several resettlement selection missions, with over 5,400 applicants interviewed. More than 1,500 refugees benefited from cultural orientation prior to resettlement to their respective receiving countries.

Under its Migration Health division, IOM Uganda conducts health assessment of refugees and migrants as part of mandatory procedures prior to resettlement.

The Office of the Prime Minister issues exit permit to all refugees in the resettlement pipeline before they leave Uganda.

Number of refugees and migrants resettled by IOM Uganda to various destinations in 2022



Transit Centre

IOM Uganda's Transit Centre in Nakasero, Kampala, remains a model facility, and a cornerstone of the resettlement programme. The centre hosts refugees from the settlements during different stages of programme implementation (selection interviews, health Assessment, Cultural Orientation and Departure), and offers them a range of quality services.

In 2022, the centre received several high-profile visitors, including the US Assistant Secretary of State for Population, Refugees and Migration, Ms Julieta Valls Noyes; Canada Assistant Deputy Minister for Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship, Ms Nicole C. Giles; IOM Deputy Director General Ugochi Daniels; IOM Comptroller/Finance and Administration Director Joseph Appiah; as well as the newly-appointed USRAP Deputy Regional Refugee Coordinator, Ms Megan Kenny.

Staff Development

The RMM team continued to have trainings and regular monthly meetings to go over upskilling and day-to-day work performances. They progressed well, with staff being sent to support other Missions like Rwanda, United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Moldova, Somalia, and Nigeria. Two staff members took up international positions in Qatar and Rwanda.

The unit has ensured that there is compliance



A young Congolese refugee presents a bouquet to IOM Deputy Director General Ugochi Daniels (2nd from Left) at the Transit Centre in Kampala. DDG Daniels, in Uganda for the inter-ministerial conference on MECC, was given a guided tour of the Transit Centre. Left is IOM Uganda Chief of Mission Sanusi Tejan Savage

with the set program integrity guidelines through vetting staff, training them as well as empowering vulnerable populations to speak out on services rendered by IOM. Fraud and malfeasance prevention trainings have been extended to staff and beneficiaries to continue having a transparent system in place. As of 2022, all staff had completed their mandatory trainings and pledged to continue serving beneficiaries with integrity.

RMM acknowledges the tremendous support from the Government of Uganda entities such as Office of the Prime Minister, Uganda Civil Aviation Authority, Directorate of Citizenship and Immigration Control, UNHCR and other UN agencies, as well as resettlement destination countries – among other partners.



The Head of Resettlement and Movement Operations for the GLWCA region, Mr Konan Romaric N'Guessan (in red tie) interacts with RMM staff during a monitoring visit to Nigeria

Office of the Head of Operations, Great Lakes and West and Central Africa Region

Since 2019, IOM Uganda hosts the office of the Head of Operations for the Great Lakes, West and Central Africa (GLWCA), the largest Resettlement and Movement Management (RMM) region globally. GLWCA covers 28 countries that – for general IOM administration – fall under three different Regional Offices (RO Nairobi, RO Dakar and RO Pretoria).

As the number of refugees from the region has increased over the last decade, IOM, through the generous support of the resettlement countries, continues to increase its operational capacity to process refugees in locations closest to where they reside.

Uganda serves as a regional resettlement operations hub for the GLWCA region. Ghana is the hub for the West African countries and under the general guidance of the regional hub - Uganda.

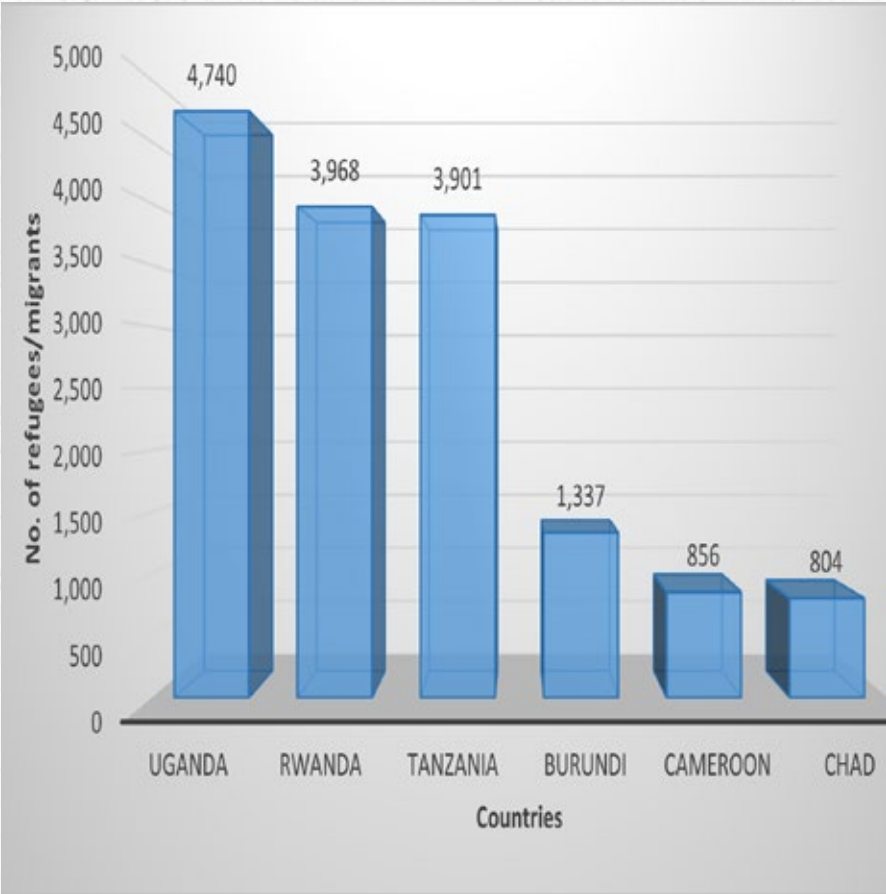
In 2022, at least 16,356 refugees and migrants from across the GLWCA region were resettled by IOM to third countries. Most of these went to the USA (47 per cent), Canada (32 per cent), France (7 per cent), Sweden (5 per cent) and Norway (4 per cent).

The departure to USA of 6,682 refugees represented an increase of more than 155



GLWCA regional Head of Operations Konan Romaric N'guessan with RMM staff during a monitoring mission to Burundi.

Top source-countries for resettlement in the region



Countries in the GLWCA region

1. Benin	15. Guinea Bissau
2. Burkina Faso	16. Liberia
3. Burundi	17. Mali
4. Cape Verde	18. Mauritania
5. Cameroon	19. Niger
6. CAR	20. Nigeria
7. Chad	21. Rep. of Congo
8. Cote d'Ivoire	22. Rwanda
9. Democratic Republic of the Congo	23. Sao Tome & Principe
10. Equat. Guinea	24. Senegal
11. Gabon	25. Sierra Leone
12. Gambia	26. Tanzania
13. Ghana	27. Togo
14. Guinea	28. Uganda



MONITORING VISIT TO TANZANIA: (L-R): IOM GLWCA regional Head of Operations Konan Romaric N’guessan, UNHCR Tanzania Representative Mahoua Parums, IOM Tanzania Chief of Mission Dr Qasim Sufi and GLWCA Deputy Head of Operations Mira Simovska-Nikolic

per cent on the previous year’s. Some 96 per cent of these departed from Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi: (38% departed from Tanzania, 29% from Rwanda, 16% from Uganda, 13% from Burundi).

The departures assisted from the GLWCA region to USA represents 26% of the USA’s 25,465 confirmed refugee arrivals for Fiscal Year 2022.

Canada was the second largest resettlement country in 2022, with over 5,155 refugees and migrants departing from the GLWCA region, 50 per cent of them from Uganda.

The Head of Operations (HoO) conducts regular monitoring missions to countries in the region to see firsthand the work being done by the teams, and explore ways to improve the services. This is also to ensure that the principles of protection and accountability to affected populations are mainstreamed in the operations. HoO meets with resettlement partners, mainly the host governments and UNHCR, to discuss ways to strengthen the resettlement program, one of the durable solutions for vulnerable refugees and migrants.



PROMOTING ETHICAL RECRUITMENT TO CURB EXPLOITATION OF MIGRANT WORKERS FROM UGANDA

PROJECT FUNDED BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Key Objectives

Strengthening commitments and actions of private recruitment agencies for ethical recruitment.

Improving policy, regulatory enforcement framework and migrant protection and ethical recruitment.

An IOM staff member shows youth in Arua city how to access the Uganda Government's External Employment Management Information System (EEMIS) on a mobile phone. EEMIS was operationalized by IOM Uganda with funding from the USA State Department. This was part of a campaign to prevent exploitation of migrant workers, which covered 31 districts, 22 radio stations and seven TV stations, reaching more than eight million people.

Labour Mobility and Social Inclusion (LMI)

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognizes that labour migration is a powerful driver of sustainable development – for migrants, their communities of origin, and communities where they migrate to. Yet migrant workers from many countries such as Uganda remain vulnerable to extortion and exploitation both within the recruitment process and in the destination workplaces. IOM's Labour Mobility and Social Inclusion (LMI) programming aims to foster the synergies between labour migration and development, and promote legally-accepted labour migration and in-country employment creation as alternatives to irregular and perilous movement. IOM strives to protect migrant workers and to optimize the benefits of labour migration for both the country of origin and destination as well as for the migrants themselves.



Sustainable
Development
Goals (SDGs)

SDG 8: Full and productive employment and decent work for all.
SDG 10.7: Facilitate orderly, safe, and responsible migration.
SDG 17.18: High-quality, timely and reliable data on migration.

- Objective 5:** Enhance availability and flexibility of pathways for regular migration.
- Objective 6:** Facilitate fair and ethical recruitment and safeguard conditions for decent work.
- Objective 18:** Invest in skills development and facilitate mutual recognition of skills, qualifications and competences.
- Objective 19:** Create conditions for migrants and diasporas to fully contribute to sustainable development in all countries.





Staff of IOM Uganda; Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development; and the Uganda Association of External Recruitment Agencies during a radio talk show in Soroti district, on safe labour migration. The campaign to prevent exploitation of migrant workers covered 31 districts, 22 radio stations and seven TV stations, reaching more than eight million people.

In 2022, the LMI division implemented or completed six projects, variously supporting the pursuit of a world where migrant workers move and work in dignity and meaningfully contribute to national development. These projects were funded by the USA Bureau for Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM); the USA Joint Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons (J/TIP) through the Global Fund to End Modern Slavery (GFEMS); IOM Development Fund (IDF), and the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO).

As in previous years, much of the LMI work centred on empowering policy makers, community leaders and the general public with knowledge and skills to make decisions that promote safety, dignity and socioeconomic value of labour migration. At the heart of this work was the International Recruitment Integrity System (IRIS), the gold standard for ethical recruitment.

Between August and October, the LMI team led a mass sensitization campaign in 31 districts, using public meetings as well as radio and television talk shows and messaging. This campaign reached more than 8.02 million people. It was conducted in partnership with the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MGLSD); the Uganda Association of External Recruitment Agencies (UAERA), and district local governments.

To make the messaging more accessible to a wide range of people, the messages were produced in English and translated into eight local languages, and aired on 20 radio stations and seven TV stations across the country. In each of districts and neighbouring areas, people were sensitized about the opportunities, rights, responsibilities and risks in labour migration; safe pathways, danger signs, and how to seek help.

In addition to the messaging, IOM trained more

than 800 stakeholders on a range of topics related to safe labour migration. The trainees included trainers of aspiring migrant workers, government officials and Members of Parliament, civil society organization personnel, as well as staff of labour exporting companies, MoGLSD and labour training institutions. The topics covered included predeparture orientation; introduction to IRIS, safe Labour migration, ethical recruitment and protection of migrant workers, as well as the External Employment Management Information System (EEMIS).

Another aspect of our LMI work had to do with policy-related documents at national and regional levels. This category of initiatives is critical, given the ever-present need for improved governance of labour migration. Five national-level documents were validated during the course of the year: Implementation Guidelines for Employment Regulations 2021; National Capacity Building Strategies on Labour Migration Data; National Action Plan to Pilot

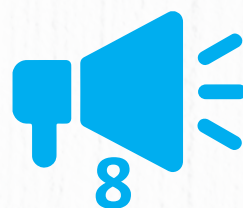
Ethical Recruitment in Uganda; National Labour Migration Statistical Meta Data Handbooks for Uganda; and National Assessment Report on Existing BLMAs and National BLMA Guidelines. The unit also supported the drafting of two regional-level documents: Draft Council Directive on Portability of Social Security Benefits within the EAC, and the Draft Council Directive on Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) Of Academic Qualifications within the EAC.

In support of improved labour migration data, IOM had, in 2021, supported the operationalization of the External Employment Management Information System (EEMIS), which is housed within the MGLSD. In 2022, IOM supported a retreat to take stock of the EEMIS implementation progress and assess any gaps and areas for improvement. This is expected to help improve the system's efficiency. At the same time, IOM supported a national consultative Workshop on Labour Migration Indicators for the Labour Migration Information System (LMIS).



1,100

Copies of the migrant worker training manual were printed and disseminated.



Languages in which the national Employment Regulations were translated (Acholi, Lugishu, Lusoga, Luganda, Runyakitara, Ateso, Ng'akarimojong, Samia). The Migrant Workers Handbook was translated into five local languages (Luganda, Acholi, Lugishu, Lusoga, Runyakitara)



4,100

Copies of the national Employment Regulations and the Migrant Workers Handbook (In English and local languages) were printed and distributed



8.03 Million

People in 31 districts were reached with messages on safe labour migration pathways through radio, Television, and community meetings.



802

Government and non-government officials and private sector players trained on various aspects of safe labour migration, including the International Recruitment Integrity System (IRIS); the External Employment Information Management System, etc.



IOM Chief of Mission Mr Sanusi Tejan Savage (in red necktie) handing over digital equipment to the Directorate of Citizenship and Immigration Control (DCIC) and Uganda Civil Aviation Authority to augment awareness raising against trafficking in persons (TIP). The 14 flat screen displays, 14 uninterruptible power supply systems, and storage devices with audio-visual messages were installed at the waiting, departure, and arrival areas of the airport.

Migrant Protection and Assistance (MPA)

The Migrant Protection and Assistance (MPA) unit supports activities to prevent trafficking in persons, enhance migrants' and potential migrants' knowledge on trafficking in persons (TIP) and safe migration, support capacity development, and assist victims of trafficking and migrants in vulnerable situations.

MPA unit works in collaboration with key Government partners such as the Ministries of Internal Affairs; Gender, Labour and Social Development; Office of the Prime Minister, UN agencies as well as nongovernmental organizations. On Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR), IOM Uganda works closely with IOM offices in the countries where the migrants are returning to or from.



Sustainable
Development
Goals (SDGs)

SDG 5.2: Eliminate violence against all women and girls, including trafficking in persons.
SDG 8.7: Eradicate forced labour, modern slavery and trafficking in persons.
SDG 10.7: Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration.

EGCM Objective 6: Facilitate fair and ethical recruitment and safeguard decent work.
GCM Objective 10: Eradicate trafficking in persons in international migration.
GCM Objective 22: Facilitate safe and dignified return and sustainable reintegration.



Global Compact
for Migration



Boda boda riders in western Uganda were engaged to be agents of change in the fight against Trafficking in Persons. IOM continues to enlist the support of various stakeholders to increase public awareness on TiP.

During 2022, the Migrant Protection and Assistance (MPA) unit worked on various fronts towards improving the safety and dignity of people on the move and potential migrants.

The major activities revolved around capacity building of duty bearers to better protect migrants, as well as raising the awareness of the public about their rights and how to better protect themselves.

The unit conducted awareness-raising campaigns and targeted training in 67 schools and tertiary institutions across 12 of the most at-risk districts in Uganda. Many of these have large youth populations and/or are in migrant- and refugee-hosting areas. Under the theme “Stop Human Trafficking, It Starts with Me”, this drive targeted the districts of Moyo, Yumbe, Arua, Mayuge, Kumi, Hoima, Kikuube, Kyegegwa and Mbarara, Kyotera, Isingiro and Kampala.

Another segment involved the training of 480 boda boda cyclists from 12 districts to enhance their understanding of trafficking in persons (TiP) and to strengthen the mechanism of reporting suspected

victims of trafficking. As arguably the furthest-reaching form of motorized transport, boda bodas transport probably hundreds of thousands of passengers each day, including traffickers and their victims. Therefore, empowering the cyclists to identify and report potential cases of TiP was worthwhile.

MPA further facilitated digitized awareness-raising at Entebbe airport through provision of 14 television screens along with pre-recorded messages on TiP. They were installed in strategic areas at waiting, departures, and arrivals sections, so that airport users can get messages that might save them or their friends and relatives from being trafficked.

Because some of the most dangerous forms of TiP take place across borders, the unit trained 26 Immigration officers on addressing TiP and smuggling of migrants. Additionally, the unit assessed the curriculum of the Immigration Training Academy in Nakasongola, with a view to promoting a more holistic approach to migration management.

IOM Uganda piloted remediation guidelines aimed at correcting injustices against migrants, serving as an alternative dispute resolution mechanism for vulnerable workers. The guidelines are meant to complement state-based systems, unions/collective bargaining, or other company-led initiatives. They have potential to strengthen protection of victims of trafficking and vulnerable migrants at the local, national, and regional levels.

In December, IOM rolled out the National Referral Guidelines on Managing Victims of Trafficking in eastern and southwestern Uganda. The target audience included shelter providers, civil society organizations, district local government representatives and state attorneys. The NRGs are designed to ensure efficiency, effectiveness, impact, and sustainability of systems for handling victims.

To complement the digitized awareness-raising at the airport, the unit facilitated a training for 200 airport personnel on identifying, referring and guiding actual and potential victims of trafficking. The unit also translated TiP awareness raising messages into eight widely used languages of Lusoga, Ateso, Luganda, Lugbara, Runyankore, Runyoro, Kakwa, & Arabic. This helped the messages to reach more people in more communities across the country.

MPA supported two meetings of the National Coordination Mechanism on Migration. The meetings discussed migration governance aspects of the Global compact for Migration, SDGs, Climate change, and Migration data, among others. This was done under the Better Migration Management Programme, co-funded by the EU Emergency Trust Fund and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Tackling Violence Against Women

In 2022, IOM continued to co-implement the Spotlight Initiative in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme, funded by the European Union. This global programme aims to eliminate violence against women and girls.

Under Spotlight, IOM Uganda, in collaboration with UNDP, focuses on three result areas:

- Strengthening of Institutions with responsibility to address trafficking in persons, for example the Ministry of Internal Affairs. IOM supported trainings of MDAs to develop systems and policies on TiP, SGBV and related sources of vulnerability.
- Collection, dissemination, and systematic storage of data on SGBV, TiP to aid systematic interventions, especially at district level.
- Social norms change to enhance the fight



A police officer speaks during a Spotlight Initiative activity in eastern Uganda. The programme has been instrumental in increasing awareness about Gender-Based Violence and related problems



An Immigration officer receives her certificate after completing a training of trainers on the National Referral Guidelines for Managing Victims of Trafficking, Mbarara city, western Uganda.

against TiP, including efforts to raise awareness on TiP as well as livelihood support for victims/potential victims of trafficking and persons with disabilities (PWDs).

Working with local implementing partners, IOM reached 527 people (473 F; 54M), including victims of trafficking, minority groups like PWDs and youths involved in prostitution. Potential Victims of trafficking and survivors of GBV received direct livelihood support.

- The programme supported the development of the Uganda-Kenya cross border guidelines on for identification, interception and protection of victims of trafficking in persons, which Kenya has already adopted.
- To help address trafficking in persons (TiP) and harmful practices like female genital mutilation (FGM), IOM collected and disseminated data on cross-border population movements in Amudat and Tororo districts. This was done with IOM's displacement tracking matrix (DTM) and the Flow Monitoring Survey tool.
- The team published eight DTM dash boards on SGBV and TiP data collected along the border in Amudat and Tororo. This data was shared to be used by stakeholders such as district

local governments, MoLA, Academia, security agencies, UN Agencies, CSOs among others) for policy, research and decision making..

Assisted Voluntary Return and Repatriation:

During 2022, IOM was able to support 32 vulnerable migrants (inclusive of Victims of trafficking and stranded migrants). Cooperation between IOM Uganda, IOM missions in corresponding countries, respective Governments, and other stakeholders ensures that migrants are successfully assisted before departure, during travel and after arrival, including helping them to settle in and reintegrate.

MPA projects in 2022

1. **Better Migration Management (BMM)**
Donor: EU and BMZ
2. **Spotlight Initiative & DTM:**
Donor: European Union United Nations
3. **Assisted Voluntary Return and ReIntegration**
Support structures: IOM sending missions, HASM, GAF and Emergency Victim Assistance Fund (all coordinated by IOM headquarters in Geneva)

Immigration & Border Governance (IBG)

IOM's Immigration and Border Governance (IBG) division assists member states in addressing immigration and border management challenges by providing technical assistance, including policy advice and operational solutions, and by facilitating regular migration, including offering of visa support services on a cost-recovery basis.



- SDG 10.7:** Facilitate orderly, safe, and responsible migration.
- SDG 16.a:** Strengthen relevant national institutions... to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime
- SDG 17.18:** High-quality, timely and reliable data on migration.

- GCM Objective 1:** Collection, analysis and utilization of accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence-based policies.
- Objective 5:** Enhance availability and flexibility of pathways for regular migration.
- GCM Objective 11:** Manage borders in an integrated, secure and coordinated manner





Countering Transnational Threats on Lake Victoria by Enhancing Border Security capacities & Coordination between Authorities in:

Kenya, Uganda & the United Republic of Tanzania

Ugandan Assistant Commissioner Marcellino Bwesigye from the Directorate of Citizenship and Immigration Control (DCIC), speaks in Nairobi, during the launch of IOM's new Lake Victoria border security project for Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania. The three-year initiative is funded by the USA Department of State Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL)

Regional Project tackles Organized Crime on Lake Victoria

In November 2021, while receiving a boat to be deployed on Lake Albert, the head of the Directorate of Citizenship and Immigration Control expressed hope that one day, IOM would support border management operations on Lake Victoria. IOM Chief of Mission Sanusi Tejan Savage, who was handing over the boat to DCIC Director Maj Gen Apollo Kasiita-Gowa, nodded his agreement.

One year later, on 14 November 2022, IOM formally launched a sub-regional project titled: "Countering Transnational Organized Crime on Lake Victoria by Enhancing Border Security Capacities and Coordination between Authorities in Kenya, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania."

The project aims to help the three countries to harness the potential of one of the largest freshwater lakes in the world, while addressing the risk of Transnational Organized Crime (ToC). Lake Victoria is a hugely important natural resource, supporting the livelihoods of an estimated 40

million people. But it faces a myriad of challenges, including ToC.

The start of the three-year project was one of the highlights of 2022 for IOM Uganda's Immigration and Border Governance (IBG) division. The initiative is funded by the United States Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL). It is implemented by IOM in collaboration with border management authorities in the three countries.

In Uganda, the project activities are being concentrated around the ports of Kasensero in the South, Jinja in the East and Port Bell in Kampala. Kenya's designated project sites are Kisumu, Usenge, Mbita, Muhuru Bay and Sio, while Tanzania will focus on Mwanza North and Mwanza South, Musoma and Kagera.

However, besides the work on these sites, the project will also seek to get the border management agencies in the three countries to work together to



Senior DCIC managers and staff pose with an IOM Uganda team in November 2022, after IOM handed over two disinfection booths (one in the background) and five laptop computers to support the directorate's work. DCIC is IOM's leading Government partner on IBG programming.

address common challenges and harness regional opportunities on Lake Victoria.

Information System Improved

In September 2022, IOM Uganda completed the two-year project “Enhancing Uganda’s Border Management Information System”, which was delivered in collaboration with DCIC. During the year, the project upgraded 10 strategic immigration premises (including 8 border posts) with the most updated software and hardware of the Migration Information and Data Analysis System (MIDAS). This upgrade allowed interconnectivity between the border posts (BCPs) and the DCIC headquarters in Kampala. The border facilities also got new solar electrical installations.

Further, the project supported efforts for enhanced interconnectivity between MIDAS and other existing border management information systems, particularly PISCES. This allowed consolidation of migration data in one central database. By the end of the year, the interconnection between MIDAS and INTERPOL FIND was ready for testing. Such interconnection will help DCIC to track, in real time, persons of interest to InterPol should they try to go through Uganda’s BCPs.

In 2022, IOM offered new and refresher training sessions to 14 immigration officers (10 men; 4 women) on various aspects of MIDAS, including, usage, administration, installation, and training of other users. These trainees were in addition to 30 officers trained the year before.

Additionally, IOM donated five laptops and two disinfection booths to DCIC. The computers were meant to support DCIC’s information management, while the disinfection booths helped to improve hand-health and disease surveillance at ports of entry such as Goli in Nebbi district.

Summary of objectives of the Lake Victoria project

- ◆ Improved Cross-border Cooperation and coordination to address Maritime Transnational Organized crime (ToC).
- ◆ Improved management of Lake Victoria ports.
- ◆ Improved capacity of border authorities to combat maritime ToC and Trafficking in Persons.
- ◆ And Improved community engagement to prevent ToC on the Lake.



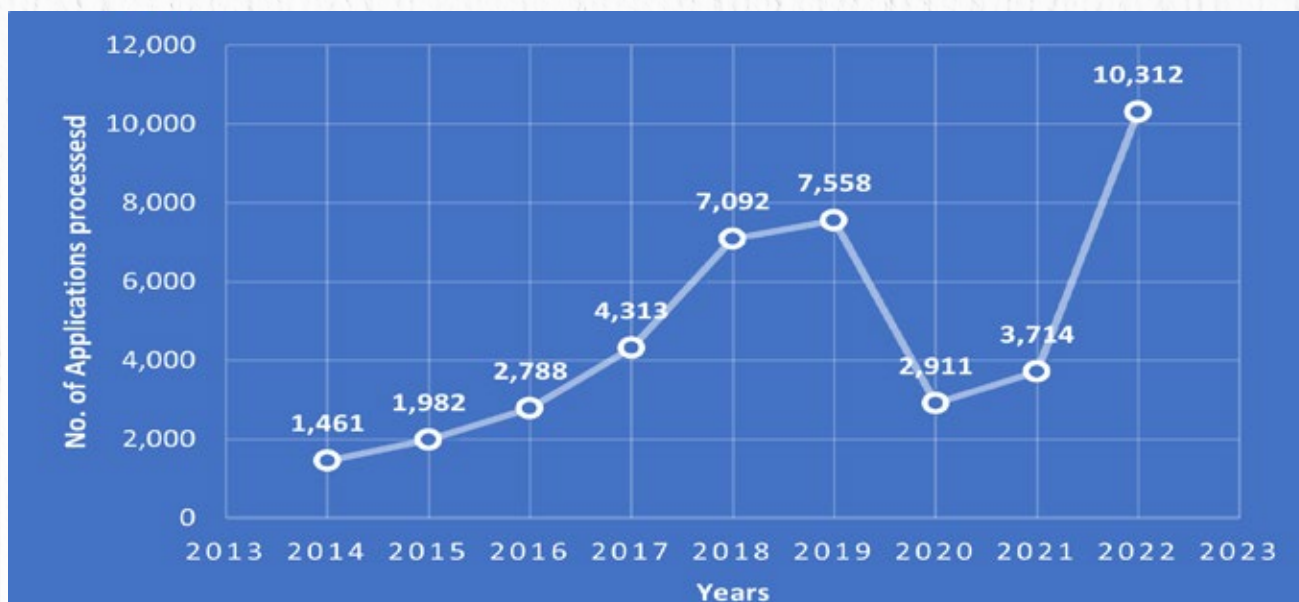
A traveller's details are captured by the newly upgraded MIDAS system at Vurra border crossing point in northwestern Uganda.



RECEPTION



Canada Assistant Deputy Minister (Operations) for Immigration, Refugees and citizenship, Ms Nicole Giles (3rd Left) and her entourage pose with staff of the Canada Visa Application Centre, which is operated by IOM in partnership with VFL Global.



The Canada Visa Application Centre

After the slow, COVID-hit years of 2020 and 2021, the Canada Visa Application Centre experienced something of a rebound, registering its best performance ever.

Overall, in 2022, the centre supported 10,312 applications from Uganda, including biometrics only and package transmission to Dar-es-Salaam. The Month of May registered the highest figures at 1,489, compared to 379 for January.

One relic from the worst of the COVID-19 pandemic days, in 2022, applicants were still not able to submit paper applications for temporary residence at the Visa Centre with few exceptions. The ministerial ban on paper application was extended in April, and was only expected to be reviewed after March 2023.

This meant that most applications for visitor visas were done online via the website.

The figures for 2022 surpassed the highest number ever reached by the Visa Application centre, which was 7558 recorded in 2019.

During the year, the Centre got some high-profile visitors, headlined by the visit of Dr Nicole Giles, the Assistant Deputy Minister for Operations at Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship **Canada** (IRCC). The minister was accompanied by Ms Carol McQueen, the Director General of the Refugees Asylum Support Operations (RASO); Mr Steffan Miles Board, IRCC's Sub-Saharan Africa Director; and Counsellor Meagan Thiessen from the Canadian High Commission in Dar-

IN CONTEXT

IOM's Visa Application Centres, which offer visa support for governments and migrants worldwide, are part of IOM's work in the area of migration management. For nearly 10 years, IOM Uganda has been operating the Canada Visa Application Centre (CANVAC), located in Kololo, Kampala, in partnership with VFS Global. Under this arrangement, CANVAC provides administrative support to visa applicants, but the visa decision-making process rests entirely with the Canadian Visa Officers at the High Commission in Tanzania.

IOM's Role in the Visa process

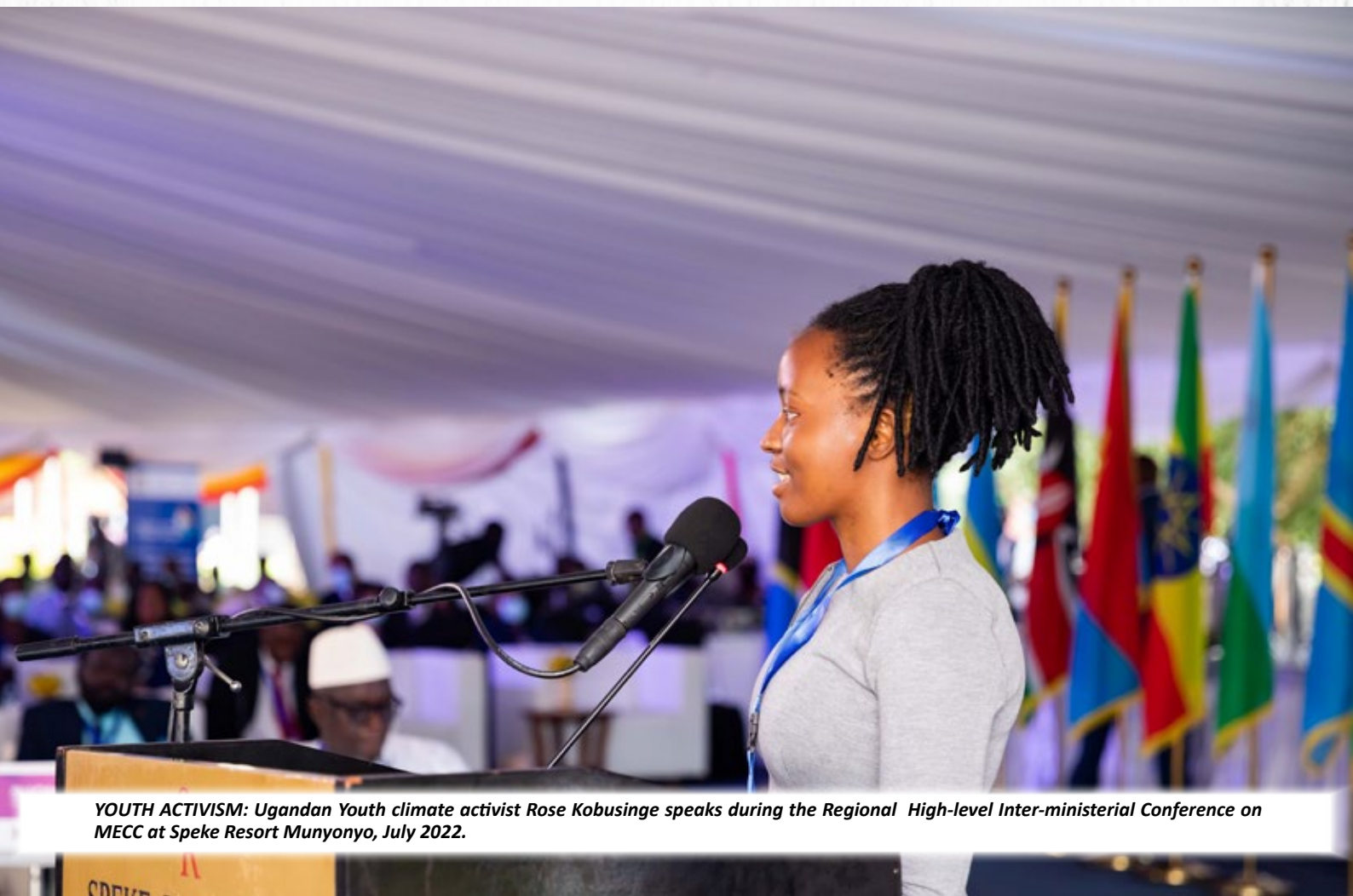
1. Guiding visa applicants, receiving completed application forms and transferring them to the Canadian High Commission in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, and arranging visa interviews where necessary. Interviews are conducted either in Dares- Salaam, or at the Canadian Consulate in Kampala.
2. Capturing the necessary biometric data and biographical information required by the Canadian High Commission.
3. Tracking and returning passports to the applicants in Uganda at the end of the visa process.

es-salaam. Minister Giles also visited the IOM Uganda Country Office and IOM Transit Centre. She reiterated Canada's appreciation of the relationship with IOM.

During the year, the VAC made progress on being more accessible to a wider range of visitors, with all the signages and the posters inside the facility, now displayed in all three operational languages: English, French and Kiswahili.



REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE: IOM Regional Director for East and Horn of Africa, Mohammed Abdiker, addresses a session during the High-level Inter-ministerial Conference on Migration, Environment and Climate Change at Speke Resort Munyonyo, July 2022. The conference culminated in the adoption of the Kampala Declaration.



YOUTH ACTIVISM: Ugandan Youth climate activist Rose Kobusinge speaks during the Regional High-level Inter-ministerial Conference on MECC at Speke Resort Munyonyo, July 2022.



IOM Uganda Chief of Mission Sanusi Tejan Savage and State Minister for Environment Beatrice Atim Anywar hoist a pledge board after signing up to increase cooperation on migration matters related to climate change and environmental degradation. This was at an event to launch the research report on migration, environment and climate change. Right is the FAO Uganda Representative Antonio Querido, and Left is IGAD Head of Mission Lucy Daxbacher



IOM Deputy Director General Ugochi Daniels addresses IOM Uganda staff during a town hall at the Country office in Kampala. The DDG was in Uganda to attend the Regional Inter-Ministerial Conference on MECC.



An IOM Uganda team hands over the Public Handwashing Facility at Elegu border. The facility was constructed by IOM with GIZ funding through the East African Community Secretariat



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