Districts of Kampala, Hoima, Kikuube, Isingiro, Mbarara, Yumbe, Moyo, Kyeggega, Lamwo, Koboko, Amuru, Kasese, Kisoro, Bundibugyo, Ntoroko, Kaabong, Amudat, Moroto, Iganda, Masaka, Rubirizi, Rukungiri, Obongi, Nakasongola, and in the refugee settlements of Nakivale, Kyangwali, Kyaka II, Palorinya and Bidibidi.
It is my pleasure to present to you the 2019 annual report of the International Organization for Migration in Uganda. The report gives highlights of IOM’s work towards making migration safe, orderly, humane and regular, in partnership with the Government, UN sister agencies, and other partners.

For Uganda, among other important developments, 2019 was the year of Ebola virus disease (EVD), which broke out across the border in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in August 2018. As the fear of EVD spreading beyond DRC kept the region awake day and night, IOM Uganda deployed its Health, Border and Mobility Management expertise to help keep the threat at bay. I extend our thanks to the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and the Government of Japan for funding our EVD preparedness activities, and to the Ministry of Health, WHO and other partners for the strong collaboration.

In 2019, we continued to support refugees and migrants and host communities in refugee settlements, especially with Water, Sanitation and Hygiene services. This was with support of the Directorate General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG-ECHO) and CERF. At least four piped water systems were completed in Kyangwali, Kyaka II and Palorinya refugee settlements, while a fifth one in Kyaka II was in final stages by the end of the year.

In Kampala, we supported youths, women and refugees and migrants, thanks to the Strengthening Social Cohesion and Stability in Slum Populations (SSCoS) project, funded by the European Union Trust Fund for Africa (EUTF), as well as two other projects funded by the Government of the United States of America.

Labour exportation remains a thriving business, but fraught with problems such as inadequate protection abroad, and human trafficking. The Better Migration Management Programme (BMM), funded by EUTF and the German Government, worked to improve labour externalization, prevent human trafficking and improve border management.

Our longstanding programmes on Resettlement and Movement Management, Migration Health, and Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) continued, and I would like to thank the Office of the Prime Minister, UNHCR and the partner embassies for the strong collaboration.

During the year, the Canada Visa Application Centre moved to a larger block, which has improved the client environment.

The year also ushered in a new project on Migration, Environment and Climate Change (MECC). We hope, in the coming years, to do more on MECC, and on internal displacement caused by natural disasters, both important aspects of IOM’s broad mandate.

Finally, I would like to pay tribute to my predecessor, Mr Ali Abdi, who led IOM Uganda for five years and left in October. I cannot forget to thank the entire IOM Uganda staff for their dedicated service.

My team and I will be grateful for any feedback on this report, which you can kindly send to ugamapiu@iom.int.

Sanusi Tejan Savage
Chief of Mission
April 2020
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 173 member states, 8 countries holding Observer Status, and offices in more than 100 countries.

IOM works in four broad areas of migration management: migration and development, facilitating migration, regulating migration, and addressing forced migration. Cross-cutting activities include 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 capacity of relevant stakeholders. In 2019, besides its head office in Kampala, IOM has field sub-offices in Nakivale, Kyangwali, Kyaka II, Palorinya and Bidibidi refugee settlements, as well as a presence in Moroto in the Karamoja sub-region.

IOM also operates a Migration Health Assessment Centre (MHAC), a Transit Centre for refugees, and the Canada Visa Application Centre, 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); Community Stabilization and Durable Solutions; Labour Migration and Human Development; Migrant Protection and Assistance (including counter-trafficking and return and reintegration assistance for stranded migrants); Immigration and Border Management; Migration Policy 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 policy-making 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.
Our Partners

- Office of the Prime Minister (OPM)
- Ministry of Internal Affairs
- European Union
- United Nations’ Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)
- Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD)
- IOM Development Fund
- IOM Global Assistance Fund
- Irish Aid (through Joint UN Programme of Support on AIDS)
- Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Ministry of Health
- Private Health sector (Clinics, Hospitals and laboratories)
- Ministry of Works and Transport
- Uganda AIDS Commission
- Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA)
- German International Cooperation Agency (GIZ)
- Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany
- Labour Recruitment agencies
- District Local Governments in areas of operation
- UNHCR
- World Health Organization
- Resettlement Support Center (RSC) Nairobi
- Canadian High Commission
- Embassy of Sweden
- Embassy of Denmark
- Embassy of the United States of America
- Embassy of Norway
- Embassy of the Netherlands
- Embassy of Japan
- Embassy of Belgium
- British High Commission
- United Nations Country Team
- VFS Global
- Centers for Disease Control (CDC)
- Action for Fundamental Change
- KIBO Foundation
- CEFORD
- AcTogether
- ALGOL Africa Limited
- Riamirim civil society Network
- Humanitarian Assistance and Development Services
- Uganda Youth Development Link
**Sustainable Development Goals (SDGS)**

| SDG 10.7  | Facilitating safe, orderly, regular and responsible migration |
| SDG 17.18 | High-quality, timely and reliable data on migration. |
| SDG 17.9  | Capacity building support to Government. |

**Global Compact for Migration (GCM)**

| GCM Objective 1 | Collection, analysis, utilization and dissemination of accurate, disaggregated data |
| GCM Objective 23 | Supporting the national GCM implementation plan |

In line with Sustainable Development Goal 17 and Objective 1 of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, IOM supports Uganda in its efforts to collect and utilize accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence-based policies for better management of migration.
IOM Supports National Coordination Mechanism on Migration (NCM)

With support from the Better Migration Management (BMM), two capacity-building trainings on migration management were provided to members of the NCM. BMM is funded by the European Union Emergency Trust Fund for Africa (EUTF) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

The trainings covered the following areas: Migration Data and Migration, Environment and Climate Change. These contributed to increasing the knowledge among stakeholders. IOM also supported the NCM to organize and hold its quarterly coordination meetings in which discussions towards a national action plan for implementation of the GCM were initiated. The meetings also facilitated discussions on policy development in Uganda.

As part of its capacity building efforts, IOM supported the NCM to undertake a benchmarking visit to Kenya. This visit provided an opportunity for both countries to share and document good practices on enhancing national coordination and cooperation on migration management among national actors and foster dialogue between the two countries on issues of mutual concern related to migration governance in general. Further, IOM supported an assessment which highlighted migration management issues/gaps that were considered for inclusion in the third Uganda National Development Plan (NDP III).

During 2019, in close partnership with the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), IOM contributed to strengthening inter-agency coordination and whole-of-Government approach to migration management through the National Coordination Mechanism on Migration (NCM).
An enumerator takes a traveller’s data at the Cyanika Point of Entry at the Uganda-Rwanda border.
The year 2019 saw the launch of IOM’s Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) / Flow Monitoring (FM) activities in Uganda for the first time. These activities were funded mostly by the Government of Japan through the project titled: Comprehensive Border Management for a Strengthened Response to Emergency Mass Migration and Identification of Individual Security Threats in Uganda.

IOM worked in close collaboration with Office of The Prime Minister, the Directorate of Citizenship and Immigration Control, and district security stakeholders in identification of active border points to establish flow monitoring points.

Over the course of the year, IOM established flow monitoring points (FMPs) at the border with the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) to monitor population movements across the borders. In collaboration with IOM Sudan, IOM Uganda monitored population flows at a total of 15 FMPs at the border with DRC and six FMPs at the border with South Sudan.

After the outbreak of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) in DRC, seven more FMPs were set up in May 2019 along the border between DRC and Uganda. IOM provided disaggregated data on volumes, trends of population movement, as well as qualitative information on characteristics and purpose of the movement.

IOM provided flow monitoring and EVD dashboards to inform and enhance preparedness and response capacity of government and humanitarian partners in addressing EVD-related emergencies and risk-induced migration.

Flow Monitoring activity at Bunagana on the Uganda-DRC border

Displacement Tracking Matrix activities start in Uganda amid threat of Ebola
IOM’s Community Stabilization programming aims to enhance stability and security in vulnerable communities, and prevent further forced/irregular migration by mitigating factors that cause conflict and displacement, restoring trust among community members, vulnerable populations and local authorities, and laying the foundations for durable peace and sustainable development. Durable Solutions interventions provide post-crisis assistance to displaced populations to promote their sustainable return and reintegration or local integration (including livelihoods promotion), enabling them to no longer need assistance and protection.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sustainable Development Goals (SDGS)</th>
<th>GCM Objective 7: Address and reduce vulnerabilities in migration (Capacity building to promote community policing and human rights, and demand and supply accountability for service delivery). GCM Objective 18: Invest in skills development and facilitate mutual recognition.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SDG 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere. SDG 8: Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth and full and productive employment and decent work for all. SDG 16: Peaceful and inclusive societies and strong institutions at all levels.</td>
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Since 2016, IOM has been implementing the Strengthening Social Cohesion and Stability in Slum Populations (SSCoS) project in four informal settlements in Kampala city, funded by European Union Emergency Trust Fund for Africa (EUFT). In 2019, some project activities were extended in other parts of the city and to districts such as Masaka in the central region and Iganga in the east.

After three years of implementation, the number of youth beneficiaries who reported to be unemployed reduced from 30 percent at baseline to 22.4 percent, indicating an improvement of 25 percent. By 2019, the project had created 481 direct jobs for youths through support for small business startups and access to financial services through cooperatives. Many more indirect jobs were created through the multiplier effect.

Worth EUR 4.3 million over four years, the SSCoS project tackles the root causes of radicalization and violent extremism in four informal settlements, and thereby addresses some of the drivers of irregular migration. IOM works with partners such as the Action for Fundamental Change and Development (AFFCAD), KiBO Foundation, and ACTogether. Project approaches include vocational training; business start-up support to vulnerable young men and women; supporting key government agencies such as the Police; building capacity of local civil society; and anti-radicalization messaging campaigns.
ABOVE: SScoS beneficiaries explain their products to guests, including EU Head of Delegation Attilio Pacifici (3rd from Right)

BELOW: Community members during a town hall meeting at Kisenyi, Kampala
Among the 2019 achievements of the project include:

1. Improved relationship between slum communities and security agencies.
2. Three early warning centers were established in different locations within the slums of Kampala.
3. Increased knowledge of the early warning signs: The officers of counter terrorism who have received training in early warning signs are now more aware of these signs and how to identify them.
4. Improved inter-agency coordination: Because the early warning training involved different agencies, it enabled building and appreciating the importance of inter-agency coordination with other security agencies and communities in the management and prevention of violent extremism.
5. Improved knowledge and appreciation of human rights among the police officers.
6. Improved communication and openness on matters of crime: Town hall meetings have created spaces of dialogue where community members and police discuss, articulate and voice their concerns.
7. Access to information on government programs: The SSCoS project, under this objective, enabled a more comprehensive understanding of government programmes and services through interpersonal interactions between community members, local leaders and government service providers such as Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA). This has enabled the communities to raise concerns to the relevant officials with expectations to attend to them.
8. Increased social cohesion among slum communities: Small business start-ups have created an opportunity for social networks and cohesion among beneficiaries, for example, beneficiaries formed a saving group that meets weekly with a purpose of easy monitoring, supporting each other through sharing knowledge, strengthening saving, etc.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Graduated at AFFCAD (Kisenyi site)</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>152</td>
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<tr>
<th>Attendance at town hall meeting</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td>1,264</td>
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<th>Demand Side accountability - Capacity building for community action groups on budget monitoring</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td>78</td>
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<tr>
<th>Business Registration and Licensing camps</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td>217</td>
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<th>SBS Upscaling training</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td>183</td>
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<tr>
<th>Participation in PVE MDD Competition</th>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td>536</td>
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<tr>
<th>SBS Distribution</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td>245</td>
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Somali refugees on their graduation from a skills programme in Kampala, supported by the USA Embassy.
In 2019, IOM Uganda implemented a groundbreaking project titled: “Livelihood Assistance to Strengthen Resilience of Vulnerable Urban Refugees in Kampala”. Funded by the Department of State through the United States embassy, the project supported 51 Somali refugees (including 49 women) with skills in fashion design, catering, and cosmetology. The six-month initiative aimed at providing livelihood skills, business start-up kits and psychosocial support to Somali refugee women in Kisenyi, a Kampala slum with a sizeable Somali population. More than half of the women received group counselling that helps them cope with past traumatic experiences. At least 11 participants received individual counselling sessions based on identified needs especially for sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and other medical cases.

The Project contributed towards the wellbeing of refugee communities by increasing their resilience and self-reliance through improved access to economic livelihood opportunities and psychosocial support. Other highlights included:

a. Referred and supported four psychosocial cases through the IOM project funded by the United States Department of State, Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM) for medical assistance.

b. Nine groups for small business start-ups were formed, based on skills attained through vocational training.

c. Project procured small business start-ups for nine groups consisting of four or five people.

d. Formed, registered and operationalized a savings and credit cooperative society with 49 members (2 male and 47 female).
When people are forced to leave their homelands, they often find themselves in vulnerable situations, without adequate basic services. In Uganda, many refugees and migrants also find warm-hearted host communities who do not have much themselves. IOM works to improve access to services such as Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for refugees, displaced persons and host communities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sustainable Development Goals (SDGS)</th>
<th>SDG 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.</th>
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<td></td>
<td>GCM Objective 7: Address and reduce vulnerabilities in migration.</td>
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Along with other UN agencies, IOM Uganda continues to offer humanitarian assistance to migrants, refugees and internally-displaced persons.

In 2019, with the support of European Union humanitarian aid and United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), IOM facilitated Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) services for refugees and host communities in various districts.

IOM implemented two projects funded by the Directorate General of European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG-ECHO) and CERF. The ECHO-funded project (worth USD 2 million) was completed on 31 August 2019, while the CERF-funded project (USD 1 million) was completed on 31 January 2020.

Through the ECHO project, at least 116,095 people benefitted from improved access to sustainable safe drinking water and improved sanitation and hygiene in Kyangwali, Palorinya and Kyaka II settlements. The CERF-supported project benefitted a total of 50,158 people through improved access to water and improved sanitation and hygiene.

IOM implemented these WASH projects in collaboration with UNHCR, Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), District Local Governments and other WASH partners in Kyegegwa, Kikuube and Obongi districts. IOM ensured that its WASH services reached vulnerable people, including persons with special needs such as the disabled and the elderly.

Besides contributing to WASH services, IOM also worked to promote sustainable management and governance of water systems in refugee settlements.
I am called Bonsuk Sama, they also call me Mama Halima. I am from South Sudan, from Kiri, Boma. Now I am in Morobi, Zone 3, Dongo West (Palorinya Settlement, in Obongi district). At first when we reached here, we were having very many problems of water. We used to go down, there is a small river called Koc, and we faced a lot of problems in water. They used to bring for us water with vehicles. At times, they would not bring that water in time. So, the water was not enough. When they constructed this system with IOM, now we are okay with water system, because we got assistance from UN. But at least we need more effort also, because our population is increasing. In our village, we have seven blocks, but there are only two water points. So, they are not enough. If they add one to make three points, it will be enough, according to me.
A woman fetches water at a new tap stand in Mukondo, Kyaka II settlement.
IOM supports activities to prevent trafficking in persons, to enhance migrants and potential migrants’ knowledge on trafficking in persons and safe migration; capacity development and offers direct assistance to victims of trafficking. The MPA unit works in collaboration with key Government partners such as the Ministries of Internal Affairs; Gender, Labour and Social Development; and Foreign Affairs; as well as non-governmental organizations. On Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR), we work closely with IOM offices in the countries from where the migrants are coming.
Although migration has always been a reality for generations, it also comes with certain vulnerabilities. IOM’s Migrant Protection and Assistance unit undertakes and supports efforts to prevent trafficking in persons, protect and assist vulnerable migrants, including victims of trafficking (VoTs), unaccompanied children, migrants in immigration detention and other stranded migrants.

In 2019, through the Better Migration Management Programme and other projects, IOM achieved several results. IOM supported the Ministry of Internal Affairs to elaborate the National Action Plan for Prevention of Trafficking in Persons (2019-2023) and the National Referral Guidelines for the Management of Victims of Trafficking in Uganda.

At least 328 stakeholders (143 female and 185 male) including Government and CSOs officials were trained on prevention and response to TiP.

IOM also provided updated information on cross-border movements, through its mobility tracking tool, the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), to relevant stakeholders on a regular basis, thereby contributing to informed programming.

At least 58 victims of trafficking and other vulnerable migrants (35 females; 23 males) received direct assistance, including pre-departure information and counseling, medical assistance, travel assistance, temporary shelter, business start-up support and other forms of reintegration assistance.
More than 3,400 refugees and members of host communities were reached with information on prevention and response to TiP. This was mostly through sensitization campaigns in Kampala, Hoima, Kikuube, Kyeegega, Kyaka II, Yumbe and (present-day) Obongi districts.

At a time of increasing outcry over Ugandan migrant workers being abused abroad, the unit supported the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MoGLSD) to review the Employment (Recruitment of Ugandan Migrant Workers Abroad) Regulations, 2005, to provide for stronger protection safeguards for migrant workers. The regulations were reviewed in consideration of advancements in technology, increased number of private recruitment agencies, and increased reports on trafficking in persons, among others. The draft amended regulations are awaiting formal Government approval.

IOM also supported fact-finding missions to some of the destination countries for Ugandan migrant workers including the United Arab Emirates (UAE). As a result of this mission, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Uganda and UAE was signed in June 2019.
ABOVE: State Minister for Internal Affairs Obiga M. Kania (R) speaks at an African Union meeting on Human Trafficking. 
BELOW: Artist Emmanuel Kavuma showcases his pieces, after IOM supported him to return to Uganda from the Netherlands.
### RESETTLEMENT & MOVEMENT MANAGEMENT

IOM works globally to relocate accepted refugees from asylum countries to countries willing to offer them permanent residence. IOM also handles self-paying migrants with the approval of the destination countries.

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**Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**

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<tr>
<th>SDG 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries. (10.7: Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies.)</th>
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<th>Global Compact for Migration</th>
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| GCM Objective 5: Enhance availability and flexibility of pathways for regular migration. |
| GCM Objective 7: Address and reduce vulnerabilities in migration. |
Resettlement remains one of the few practicable durable solutions for refugees, especially those in dire need of protection. And safe, orderly, and dignified movement of migrants and refugees is at the heart of IOM Uganda’s Resettlement and Movement Management (RMM) Unit.

In 2019, the RMM unit oversaw a series of expanded activities ranging from providing logistical support to selection missions, cultural orientation, document verification to facilitating movements to third countries for resettlement, including cases of family reunification. Over the course of the year, 7,613 migrants and refugees were attended to under IOM’s complete care. Safety is one of the major factors for IOM beneficiaries. The services included providing a safe, clean and secure location to shelter during interviews, health screening, cultural orientation and finally embarking on the journey to Entebbe Airport for departure. IOM Uganda was thus able to move 6,336 refugees for resettlement, the highest number for any country in Sub-Saharan Africa in 2019.

In all its resettlement work, IOM Uganda maintained its longstanding collaboration with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR); Office of the Prime Minister (OPM); Resettlement Support Center (RSC) Africa based in Nairobi; the respective resettlement countries such as USA, Canada, Norway, Sweden, Australia, and others; and with a range of service providers.
Number of refugees and migrants resettle by IOM Uganda in 2019

- Norway: 1,300 (20%)
- USA: 1,669 (26%)
- Canada: 2,259 (36%)
- Australia: 351 (6%)
- Sweden: 387 (6%)
- Others: 370 (6%)

Total: 6,336
REUNIFICATION: IOM staffer Fiona Okori delivers Baby Prince Miracle Bahati to its parents in the USA.
In support of efforts to ensure that migration is safe, and improve the health and well-being of migrants, IOM implemented several programmes and projects in Migration Health Assessment and Travel Assistance, Migration Health Promotion, and Health Assistance for Crisis-Affected Populations in a migration context.

**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 risks.)
- **SDG 10.7:** Facilitate Safe, orderly and regular migration.

**Global Compact for 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.
Health Assessment and Travel Assistance

IOM Uganda’s Migration Health Assessment Center (MHAC) in Kampala is the leading provider of health assessment and travel assistance for refugees and prospective migrants traveling temporarily or permanently to countries like USA, Canada, Australia, UK, New Zealand and other European countries such as Norway, Sweden and Netherlands. MHAC assessments are based on the technical instruction defined by the admitting countries.

In 2019, MHAC also rolled out the IGRA (interferon gamma release assay) test for diagnosing latent TB, where an individual carries the disease-causing bacteria but does not yet show any symptoms. The IGRA test is one of the few sure ways to detect latent TB, but it requires sophisticated equipment and expertise. IOM Uganda’s MHAC is one of very few health facilities in Uganda offering the IGRA test.

The volume of work remained impressive, with a total of 8,943 refugees and migrants receiving health assessments. Of these, 6,124 persons received pre-departure medical services including fitness-to-travel checks at Entebbe airport.
Travellers who received pre-departure medical checks per destination

- United States, 1680
- Norway, 1282
- Sweden, 358
- Others (self-payers), 513
- Others (refugees), 73
- Canada, 1903
- Australia, 315

Migration Health Assessment clients and intended destinations

- USA: Refugees 2226, Migrants 352
- Australia: Refugees 321, Migrants 355
- Canada: Refugees 1640, Migrants 1435
- UKTB screening: Refugees 2463, Migrants 129
- MAF & Others: Refugees 21, Migrants 129

Legend: Refugees, Migrants
Migration Health Promotion

In 2019, IOM’s KARUNA-HP activities delivered HIV Testing Services (HTS) to at least 1,036 migrants and host community members, using the integrated health outreach services model to reach remote mining communities and cross-border sites. The integrated services included delivering services for HIV/AIDS and sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) during both ordinary community outreaches and “moonlight” outreaches at pre-arranged hotspot locations.

Other key activities included training of health workers, district health teams, and peer educators on migration and adolescent-friendly services; supporting technical staff to conduct monitoring and supervision; as well as Social Behavioral Change Communication campaigns through consultative dialogue meetings and local drama groups.

A local language radio drama series, The Desire, and radio talk shows aired for 13 weeks between October and December, delivering key messages on HIV/AIDS and SRHR far and wide within the sub region.

Stigma remains a big challenge in the sub-region, thus need for strengthened interventions such as community dialogues and radio programs to address stereotypes and misconceptions. At the same time, staffing levels for human resource for health remain rather low, hence the increased reliance on peer networks and village health teams (VHTs).

The IOM Health Promotion programme aims at improving access to health services for migrants and other mobile populations and supporting access to high-quality health services for neglected populations, including migrants and host communities. Since 2017, IOM has been a member of the Joint United Nations Program of Support on AIDS in Uganda (JUPSA), with a strategic focus on the North-eastern sub-region of Karamoja. Along with 10 other UN agencies, IOM is co-implementing the Karamoja United Nations HIV Programme (KARUNA-HP), for the period 2016-2020. This initiative is funded by Embassy of Ireland.
2,639 people reached with health education messages.

10 Integrated HCT and SRHR service outreach camps at selected hotspots and cross-border points.

2 HIV/SRHR SBCC radio drama series were aired in Ng’akarimojong dialect and translations to Pokot language conducted to address HIV, SRHR and other sociocultural-related issues including access to and uptake of services.

5,900 Male and Female condoms distributed.

Conducted 3 district stakeholders review meetings with 45 participants to advocate for migration-sensitive services.

2,080 local community members reached by five local drama groups with messages on HIV/AIDS.
Health Assistance for Crisis-Affected Populations Keeps Ebola at Bay

Health Assistance for Crisis-Affected Populations is an integrated component of IOM’s overall humanitarian response right from the global level, where IOM is a formal partner of the World Health Organization (WHO). Among other objectives, IOM’s health response to humanitarian and public health emergencies aims to alleviate suffering, save lives and protect human dignity.

In 2019, IOM Uganda was part of the Ebola virus disease (EVD) response, supporting screening at Points of Entry on the border with the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Health Border and Mobility Management, and provision of data through the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM). These health operations were supported with funds from the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and the Government of Japan.

Following EVD outbreak in DRC, the neighboring countries including Uganda put in place mechanisms to prevent and limit imported cases. This was a specifically huge risk for Uganda because the disease broke out in North Kivu and Ituri provinces in DRC, bordering Uganda, but also because people continued crisscrossing the common border. Through its health emergencies work in 2019, IOM strengthened national capacities to prevent, detect and respond to the EVD outbreak at Points of Entry bordering DRC.

IOM worked in close partnership with the Ministry of Health, WHO, WFP, UNICEF, UNHCR, Uganda Red Cross Society, Humanitarian Open Street Map Team, and District Task Forces in the districts of Kasese, Ntoroko, Bundibugyo, Rubirizi, Rukungiri, Kisoro, and Kanungu.

In terms of activities, IOM conducted Population Mobility Mapping (PMM) exercises, and produced info-graphics and dashboards with strategic information on movement of people, high-risk ground crossing, travel routes, risk behaviours, and gathering points.

Other activities included establishing and overseeing flow monitoring points, and strengthening data management at the PoE and district levels. Others were preparing and publishing monthly EVD preparedness dash boards as well as PoE needs assessment dashboards with a focus on personnel, supplies and infrastructure at PoEs, training and deployment of screeners at PoEs, as well as training and stakeholder meetings for immigration officers, health workers, district health team, partner agencies, district leaders and security personnel.
Achievements in Numbers

6 Population Mobility Mapping (PMM) exercises conducted and documented.

7 Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) established in Kanungu, Kisoro, Rukungiri and Rubirizi districts.

6 Data Analysts deployed to strengthen data management.

56 MOBILE PHONES DONATED TO DISTRICTS

134 Laptops donated to districts

8 Screeners deployed

25 PoEs supported

7,925,904 Persons screened at points of entry

41 Ministry of Health Monitoring & Mentorship missions supported
Handwashing to prevent Ebola at Cyanika, on the Uganda-Rwanda border.
Psychosocial and Medical Assistance to Urban Refugees

In March 2019, IOM Uganda started implementing a project titled “Psychosocial and Medical Assistance to Urban Refugee Survivors and those at Risk of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) in Kampala.”

The project, funded by the United States Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM), helped urban refugee survivors and those at heightened risk of SGBV get medical and psychosocial support.

The majority of the beneficiaries presented with symptoms of extreme trauma, having suffered SGBV or witnessed violence against their family members. Working with counsellors, they were able to find peace and start on the road to recovery. Those with acute medical conditions were referred to hospital for medical treatment.

At least 160 refugee survivors of gender-based violence (GBV), torture and other forms of violence received individual counselling, surpassing the project target of 150. At least 79 per cent were female while 21 per cent were male. Over 214 people benefitted from support groups, 138 received first-line medical assistance, and 600 received psychological first-aid training.

At the end of the counselling sessions, counsellors noted a marked reduction in stress symptoms and improvement in mental wellbeing.

The project facilitated two community dialogues for refugees and asylum seekers from Congolese and Somali communities in Kampala, focusing on gender, SGBV, sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), HIV/AIDS that created deeper understanding on prevailing norms, and strengthening community engagement in GBV prevention.

Furthermore, psychological first-aid trainings were conducted in the refugee communities to establish mechanisms on how best communities can continue aiding people in situations of crisis through community support groups, local structures and systems. Mama kits were distributed to pregnant women and young girls to enable them to meet requirement by public health facilities to access antenatal care and to ensure a clean and safe child delivery care for child, mother and health workers.

The project was delivered in partnership with Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) and UNHCR. IOM is a member of the SGBV working group chaired by UNHCR, and comprising UN and civil society partners that provide SGBV services in Uganda.
ABOVE: Graduands at the AFFCAD Business and Vocational Institute pose with a European Union official.

BELOW: Participants during a Uganda-DRC cross-border meeting on Ebola Virus Disease in Kampala.
Over the years, Uganda has faced various problems related to climate change and environmental degradation, such as floods, mudslides and landslides, and prolonged droughts. Globally, IOM addresses challenges related to Migration, Environment and Climate Change (MECC) by assisting victims of environmental disasters; promoting policy dialogue and capacity building for effective strategies; as well as supporting research into environmental migration.

**Sustainable Development Goals (SDGS)**

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

**Global Compact for Migration**

- **GCM Objective 2**: Minimize the adverse drivers and structural factors that compel people to leave their countries of origin.
In late 2019, IOM Uganda started implementing a research and capacity-building programme titled “Data for Development: Understanding Environmental Migration in Uganda for Policy Development”, supported by the IOM Development Fund.

The overall objective of the project is to inform and strengthen both shorter-term humanitarian and programmatic responses and longer-term policy decisions on environmental migration and displacement through the provision of evidence and verifiable data. The pilot intervention seeks to boost knowledge and understanding of the migration, environment and climate change nexus in three geographically diverse areas of Karamoja, Teso and the landslide-prone Mt Elgon Sub-region.

Specific objectives include strengthening the capacity of Government of Uganda (GoU) and relevant stakeholders in utilizing MECC evidence to inform policy and programmes; this would be done through collection and analysis of quantitative data on routes, mobility trends, and scale of environmentally-induced migration and displacement. Another objective is to develop/integrate MECC-specific recommendations in district action plans.

The project will enhance the Government’s capacity to formulate national and district-level policies to address environmental migration and displacement through trainings on the Migration, Environment and Climate Change nexus. It is implemented together with key national stakeholders such as the Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS), the Makerere University Centre for Climate Change Research and Innovation (MUCCRI), the Office of the Prime Minister (Department of Disaster Preparedness and Management), and district authorities.

By the end of the year, partner-collaboration meetings had been held with Makerere University and UBOS to discuss the project overview and methodology, with implementation set to proceed in 2020.
IOM’s Immigration and Border Management Division (IBM) 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.

**Sustainable Development Goals (SDGS)**

**SDG 10:** Reduce inequality within and among countries. (Target 10.7: Facilitate orderly, safe, and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies.)

**SDG 16:** Promote peaceful and inclusive societies and accountable institutions. (Target 16.a: Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime.)

**Global Compact for Migration**

**GCM Objective 1:** Collect and utilize accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence-based policies.

**GCM Objective 11:** Manage borders in an integrated, secure and coordinated manner.
In 2019, IOM continued its longstanding support to the Government of Uganda (GoU) in strengthening its border management capacity and infrastructure. As in previous years, most of the support was channeled through the Directorate of Citizenship and Immigration Control (DCIC) of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

IOM Uganda’s IBM work was done with funding from the Government of Japan, and the Better Migration Management Programme (BMM). The BMM is a regional programme co-funded by the European Union Emergency Trust Fund for Africa (EUTF) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

Among other achievements, IOM facilitated Uganda Immigration Training Academy (ITA) management to a benchmarking trip to Ghana’s Immigration Academy and Training School, and donated a Coaster bus and sickbay equipment. The donations represented a continuation of IOM’s support to DCIC for fuller operationalization of the academy.

In addition, IOM provided capacity-building support to DCIC in relation to Migration Information and Data Analysis System (MIDAS); Health, Border and Migration Management (HBMM); as well as Document Examination and Fraud Detection. This series of trainings helped to further enhance the skills of border management agencies, leading to improved border management and capacity to combat transnational organized crime.

In collaboration with the African Capacity Building Centre (ACBC), IOM supported the development of a Uganda-specific HBMM manual, which will support ITA’s trainings and facilitate the continuous institutional learning among border management agencies.
ABOVE: Ugandan Immigration officials during a MIDAS-user Training at Afogi border under the BMM Programme.

BELOW: The bus and sickbay equipment donated by BMM to the Immigration Training Academy in Nakasongola.
Inside the 50-seater waiting hall at the expanded Canada Visa Application Centre.
IOM Uganda operates the Canada Visa Application Centre (CANCVAC) in Kampala, under a partnership with VFS Global. CANVAC provides administrative support to visa applicants in Uganda, the decisions are made by Visa Officers at the Canadian High Commission in Tanzania.

In 2019, the CANVAC expanded its operations and also moved into a new, more spacious office block. The sitting capacity of the applicants’ waiting area expanded from 10 seats to 50.

CANCVAC was able to go live successfully on the appointment system; applications with biometrics are only accepted on appointments that are managed by the queuing system. This has reduced congestion and waiting hours at the centre.

Thanks to the mandatory biometric applications, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) expects to admit 2,000 refugees into Canada in the year 2020/2021. CANVAC has installed two bio booths and three submission counters that will facilitate faster biometrics enrollments.

CANCVAC also expanded its personnel from two to five staff members, to take care of the growing client numbers.

The number of applications processed by the centre grew by 7 percent in 2019, closing at 7,558 applications, compared to 7,092 for the year 2018. These included paper applications with biometrics, passport transmissions, biometrics-only applicants for both temporary resident permit/visa applicants and Canadian permanent travel/resident permits.

Unlike before when applicants could only receive back their processed passports from 2:00pm to 4:00pm in the new contract, applicant collect their passports from 8:00am to 4:30pm.
ABOVE: The IOM stall during the exhibition to mark United Nations Day, 24 October, at Kololo.

BELOW: The IOM Uganda staff football team pose for a photo before tussling it out with UNHCR in the UN SDGs league.