

Uganda Quarterly Newsletter

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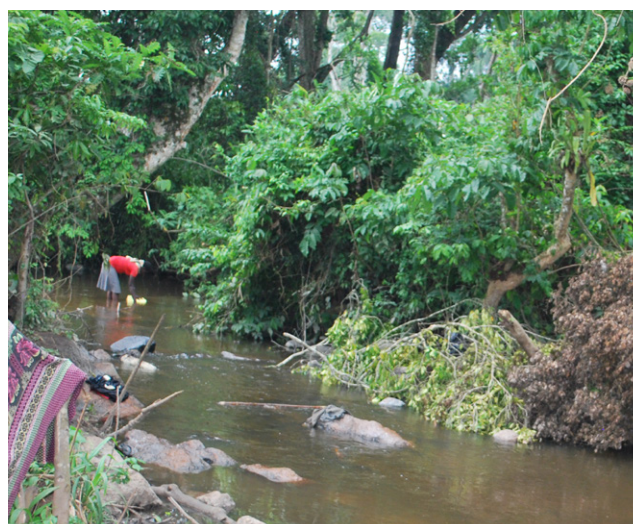
European Union Announces New EUR 2 Million Assistance for Refugees, Hosts

The European Union's Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations department (ECHO) has confirmed fresh funding worth EUR 2 million to IOM, the UN Migration Agency, to support refugees and host communities in western and north-western Uganda.

IOM is using the funds to deliver life-saving interventions on Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) for refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and South Sudan, as well as the host communities in Kyangwali settlement in Hoima district, Kyaka II settlement in Kyegegwa district, and Palorinya settlement in Moyo district.

The overarching objective of the project is to neutralize the risk of WASH-related diseases such as diarrhoea and cholera.

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An official signs a visitors' book at the water reservoir in Bidibidi settlement funded by the European Union. RIGHT: A girl fetches water from an unprotected stream near Kyangwali settlement. EU humanitarian aid will increase access to safe piped water in Kyangwali. PHOTO: RICHARD M KAVUMA

REUNIFICATION: 'I am Now Complete,' says Kalala on Being Reunited with his Three daughters



Stéphane Kalala with his daughters in Kampala PHOTO: ABUBAKER MAYEMBA

For young girls Eunice Neema (9), Bless Riziki (7), and Plenty Buya (4), this is going to be real surprise. They have not seen their father Stéphane Kalala in three years. Unknown to the children, he is just about to walk into the room where they are. But for Kalala, too, the reunion will bring smiles, singing, and tears.

See [Full story](#) and [Pictorial](#)

Briefs & Galleries

• *Destination Norway Beckons as Ambassador Eckey and IOM Chief Visit Refugees in City*

In June, a group of officials from the kingdom of Norway were in Kampala to interview refugees and conduct cultural orientation for those soon to be resettled to the Nordic country. Resettlement of refugees to third countries is one of IOM Uganda's key activities.

[See Pictorial](#)



• *Maiden Graduation at Immigration Training Academy*

The Immigration Training Academy (ITA) in Nakasongola district on 10 August passed out 22 of its pioneer immigration students.

The Immigration Training Academy-Uganda was inaugurated last year, after it was built by IOM with funding from the Government of Japan.

Since then, the academy has been supported by a USD 80,000 project funded by the IOM Development Fund.

[See Pictorial](#)

• *Getting Police, Kampala Slum Community into Conversation*

IOM, the UN Migration Agency, recently organized a town hall meeting aimed at facilitating cordial conversations between the Police and residents of Kisenyi slum in Kampala city.

This was the fourth such meeting organized by the Strengthening Social Cohesion and Stability in Slums (SSCoS) project, after those in Bwaise, Katwe and Kabalagala.

[See Story and Pictorial](#)



CERF Project Hands over Support Items to Uganda Police Marine Unit



IOM Uganda Chief of Mission Ali Abdi (R) hands over equipment to the deputy commandant of the Uganda Police Marine unit, ACP Micheal Walwanga PHOTO: IOM /MARY-SANYU OSIRE

In response to the large number of refugees fleeing into Uganda from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, IOM, the UN Migration Agency, handed over life-saving and rescue equipment to the Uganda Police Marine unit.

This donation, first announced in March, was made possible by the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (UN-CERF) through IOM Uganda's Rapid Response project for Congolese refugees.

The 18 July handover ceremony took place at the Sebagoro landing site in the western district of Kikuube. It was attended by representatives from the refugee community, host community, local leaders, as well as IOM Uganda Chief of Mission Ali Abdi and the Deputy Commandant of the Police Marine unit, Assistant Commissioner Micheal Walwanga.

The equipment consisted of the final batch of 315 life jackets (in addition to the 85 handed over in March).

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Meeting Point: WASH Engineer Peter Nzabanita on the Joys and Trials of Humanitarian Work

To mark World Humanitarian Day, 19 August, IOM published an interview with its Ugandan Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Specialist Peter Nzabanita. He says that humanitarian work can be stressful, even traumatic, but it is very much worth it. Here is his story:

Before joining IOM in 2016, I worked with a development-focused organization, which, at some point, secured funding to work in a refugee settlement. Although this is when I began working with refugees, they had already been part of my life for some time.

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Peter Nzabanita in Bidibidi refugee settlement

Kampala City Slums Project Uses Music, Dance and Drama to Prevent Extremism

Hundreds of theatre-goers were thrilled in early August, when young people took to the stage of Uganda's National Theatre to promote peace and development and reject violence.

This music, dance and drama festival was organized by the Strengthening Social Cohesion and Stability in Slum Populations (SSCoS) project, which is funded by the European Union. According to Sahra Farah, the SSCoS project manager, the objective of the gala was to use a format that youth easily identify with to promote social cohesion.

"Young people love entertainment and we thought music, dance and drama performed by their own peers would be a good way to reach them with the key messages on choosing peaceful co-existence and rejecting violence," Farah said.

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ABOVE RIGHT AND BELOW: Students perform at the National Theatre **PHOTOS:** MALAIKA MEDIA FOR IOM



Canada Immigration Minister Praises IOM as a Key Partner

Canada's Minister for Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship, Ahmed D Hussen, has hailed IOM as a key partner, and praised the UN Migration Agency's global work.

Minister Hussen spoke in Kampala on 2 August, while visiting the Canada Visa Application Centre (CANVAC), which is run by IOM Uganda in partnership with VFS Global. "As Prime Minister Justin Trudeau always says, we couldn't have done the Syrian refugee initiative without the assistance of IOM," Minister Hussen said. Between November 2015 and February 2016, IOM helped move a total of 40,000 Syrian refugees from the Middle East to Turkey.

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Minister Hussen (Left), receives a briefing about CANVAC from Staff members Annet Akello and Proscovia Aber . PHOTO: IOM / MARY-SANYU OSIRE

Canadian MPs Visit Uganda, Hail Ties with IOM

In June, a team of Canadian MPs visited IOM Uganda, with the team leader hailing Canada's relationship with the UN Migration Agency.

The visiting MPs sit on the Canadian House of Commons' Standing Committee on Citizenship and Immigration. Their visit was part of a working trip to Uganda and Tanzania, to study a range of migration challenges and opportunities.

The team was led by committee chair Robert Oliphant, the MP for Don Valley West. He said the MPs were keen to understand the changing patterns of migration today.

On arrival, they met at the IOM Uganda Country Office, they were met by Ms Sheikha Ali, the head of Operations, and received by IOM Uganda Chief of Mission Ali Abdi.

IOM Uganda operates the Canada Visa Application Centre (CANVAC), located at Plot 41-59 Mackenzie Vale. In 2016 and 2017, IOM Uganda resettled 1,732 refugees to Canada. Over the same period, CANVAC processed at least 7,101 applications for visas to Canada.



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