

Uganda Overview April to December 2018

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Glossary CAR DRC EU	Conflict Armament Research Democratic Republic of the Congo European Union	In the text when ' <i>Comment:</i> ' appears in <i>italic</i> and the subsequent text is also in <i>italic</i> , this information is not fact, but the opinion of the author.
MP WFP UNHCR	Member of Parliament World Food Programme United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	Disclaimer: The aim of this document is to give information and make analytical comment. Japan Platform is not responsible for any actions taken by the reader.

Locations	Risk Level	Comment	Forecast
Kampala	Low	Whilst recent demonstrations have been violent, risk levels in the city remain at Low. However, an escalation in political violence is a concern and could increase levels.	remove an age limit on the presidency. Many fear that this will enable President Yoweri Museveni, who has been president since 1986, to maintain his grip on power and turn Uganda into an authoritarian state. Opposition response to this and Museveni attempts to crush any viable opposition are the main threats to stability in Uganda.
Uganda outside Kampala	Moderate	Whilst Uganda is largely unaffected by conflict, its involvement in the African Union force in Somalia means the threat of a terrorist attack is present. The country's proximity to the troubles in South Sudan, DRC and CAR means there is the threat of cross border conflict. There are also several militia/rebels operating across the borders. The main risks faced by international humanitarian workers is from the threat of road traffic accident and crime. There are few inhibitors to reduce these due to a police force that has poor capacity and a poor reputation.	

1. Domestic News



BOAT SINK ON LAKE VICTORIA

At least 35 people died when a boat sank on Lake Victoria in Nov. The boat was taking passengers on a pleasure cruise, a popular weekend activity people in Kampala, when it capsized close to shore. More than 90 passengers were onboard and 27 were rescued.

POLITICAL INTOLERANCE

Popular musician-turned-opposition MP Robert Kyagulanyi, known as Bobi Wine, was arrested in Aug 2018 and reportedly beaten in detention. The arrest sparking protests in Kampala which security forces dispersed forcibly leaving 1 dead, and dozens injured and arrested. Kyagulanyi was arrested with 3 other MPs for allegedly throwing of stones at the Presidents motorcade. On release Kyagulanyi was stopped by police from leaving the country when attempted to travel to the USA for treatment to the injuries he received whilst being held in prison. In Dec police stopped a concert by Kyagulanyi and raided the hotel the MP was staying at. The MP had left the hotel evading arrest. *Comment: The President's heavyhanded response to Kyagulanyi's popularity, especially amongst the young, suggests he sees Kyagulanyi as a real threat to his grip on power.*

REFUGEE NUMBERS EXAGGERATED

An official inquiry started in Mar 2018 by the office of the Ugandan Prime Minister and the UN refugee agency, UNHCR, found that Uganda hosts 1.1 million refugees rather than 1.4 million.

The investigation followed allegations that senior officials had inflated figures and mismanaged the funds meant to support them. The Commissioner for Refugees in the prime minister's office, and three of his senior staff were suspended over allegations of collusion with staff from the UNHCR and the WFP to inflate refugee figures. The officials allegedly created fake names in refugee settlements and defrauded millions of dollars in aid.

ILLEGAL ARMS SHIPMENTS TO SOUTH

Research by Conflict Armament Research (CAR), has shown the Ugandan government was probably involved in the illegal export of small arms and military aircraft to South Sudan's government, despite an EU ban on weapons exports to all sides in the South Sudan civil war. The multi-million-dollar deal originated in the EU countries Bulgaria, Slovakia and Romania and the intended reciptriant was the Ugandan Ministry of Defence.

NAVIES CLASH IN LAKE ALBERT

In July 2018, the Navies of Uganda and the DRC exchanged fire on Lake Alber, which straddles the border between the two countries. One Ugandan soldier was killed. The Government of the DRC accused Ugandan military of shooting dead 12 Congolese fishermen and arresting 100. A DRC delegation visited Uganda to discuss issues related to the lake, but later Ugandan courts sentenced 35 DRC fishermen to upto 3 years prison for illegal fishing. In Nov tensions increased when DRC militiamen shot dead 7 Ugandan fishermen.

2. Humanitarian Situation

<u>REFUGEE SUMMARY</u> – As of Oct 2018, Uganda host 1.15 million refugees and asylum seekers from neighboring countries:

S. Sudan: 785,104 DRC: 284,265 Burundi: 33,657 Somalia: 22,064 Rwanda: 14,313 Other: 14,949 Total number of Refugees: 1,154,352

<u>Key Document To Review</u> – "Uganda Country Refugee Response Plan: The integrated response plan for refugees from South Sudan, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Jan 2019 - Dec 2020"

https://reliefweb.int/report/uganda/uganda-country-refugee-response-planintegrated-response-plan-refugees-south-sudan

KEY HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

Education: 57 per cent of school-aged refugee children are out of school, the majority are girls. Adolescents and youth account for a third of the refugee population, with the majority suffering from the lack of appropriate learning and employment opportunities.

Livelihood: Many refugees in Uganda have limited income-generating opportunities, and both refugees and host communities are challenged by the lack of access to capital/formal financial services; lack of access to cultivable land and water; poor market connectivity; limited skills and few formal employment opportunities.

Nutrition: The global acute malnutrition rate is above 10 per cent and over 40 per cent of women and children are anaemic.

Food Security: While refugees have access to land for growing crops, humanitarian assistance is a significant source of food for many refugee households. In the absence of food assistance, most refugees would face Crisis (IPC 3) levels of acute food insecurity.

Health: For children and women living with HIV, access to and utilization of HIV prevention, care and treatment are inadequate. The country is struggling to manage disease outbreaks, including cholera, and the risk of an Ebola outbreak remains significant.

https://www.usaid.gov/uganda/food-assistance https://www.unicef.org/appeals/uganda.html http://reporting.unhcr.org/node/5129?y=2019#year



<u>NATURAL DISASTERS</u> – Landslides and floods have affected 12,000 people in Bududa district (Eastern region). 51 people are reported dead, 858 displaced and at least 114 homes have been buried in 13 villages. Humanitarian needs are food, shelter, healthcare and NFIs for a minimum of 500 people. Displaced people are returning to their homes due to a lack of adequate shelter and food. A primary school was buried under the mud, more than 200 students are missing. Additionally, crops were destroyed and animals killed, leaving households in need of livelihood support. People are at risk of waterborne diseases such as cholera.