



Photo: Jumba Martin

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT:



Uganda has done well in reducing the population living below the poverty line, but poverty is still a concern. The Uganda National Household Survey 2019/2020 states that the **total population in poverty is 8.3 million, which is 20.3% of the population. Public corruption is a major concern.**



Gender inequality is high.



Vulnerable populations are predominantly small-scale, subsistence farmers who suffer from low farm production, limited access to agricultural inputs and markets, environmental degradation, and extreme climatic conditions. Displaced people who flood their countries due to conflict, violation of rights, climate change induced food insecurity is also among the highly vulnerable groups.



Despite constraints, **opportunities for collaboration between government, NGOs and the private sector** exist.



Uganda is the **biggest host of refugees in Africa** causing a strain on the country's resources. In 2022 1,53 million refugees are hosted in Uganda.

FACTS:

- **DCA has operated in Uganda since 1979.** The first DCA office was established in 2004.
- **Turnover in 2021:** EUR 5.922.121.
- **Beneficiaries:** In 2021, DCA reached 164,884 people in need.
- **Offices in Country:** The Country Office is located in Kampala. Additionally, DCA has 2 major field offices located in Yumbe and Arua in West Nile sub-region (see map). DCA also has smaller satellite offices in West Nile covering Koboko, Obongi and the refugee settlements of Imvepi and Rhino Camp.
- **Employees:** 100 DCA staff.
- **Projects:** In 2021, DCA had 27 active projects in Uganda.
- **Partners:** 23 local partners (faith based and secular as well as private sector companies).
- DCA operations in Uganda are supported by DANIDA, UNHCR, EU International Partnerships (EuropeAid), EU Humanitarian Aid (ECHO), ACT Alliance, JPA Espersen Foundation, Det Nytte Foundation, World Resources Institute and the Danish Population.

WHAT WE DO:

Primarily, DCA Uganda works with three programs: Save Lives, Build Resilient Communities and Fight Extreme Inequality. All the programs focus on youth and women.

The **Save Lives** program supports refugees, displaced persons, and refugee hosting communities to access basic life-saving and socio-economic services for self-reliance, sustainable livelihoods, and fulfilment of their rights. Interventions fall within the humanitarian-development-peace nexus and include disaster preparation and response through early warning and early action approach, cash transfers, Village Savings and Loans Associations, income generating activities, agricultural produce, access to markets, and access to clean and affordable cooking energy and environmental conservation and restoration.

DCA Uganda's **Build Resilient Communities** program supports social, economic, and environmental- resilience building (sustainable livelihoods). This includes ensuring that marginalized communities have secure access to land, are producing adequate food for their household consumptions and income and have access to vocational and entrepreneurial skill training, to increase their income. This area also supports communities to increase their resilience to conflict as well as environmental and climate change challenges.

Under the **Fight Extreme Inequality** program, DCA Uganda works with partners to ensure that more women and young people participate in decision-making processes and hold their leaders accountable for improved delivery of services and that there is increased protection of human rights for equitable development. To achieve this, DCA supports advocacy at all levels, and aims to enhance the capacity of communities in social accountability.

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UGANDA



HOW AND WHERE WE WORK:

DCA Uganda operates predominantly in the West Nile and Karamoja sub regions in Northern Uganda as well as Teso sub region in Eastern Uganda. Some of DCA's current interventions include:

Resilience Building: Supporting farmers in crop and livestock production, value addition, market access, income generation and business and financial literacy training. This is in addition to increasing access to land by marginalized communities through increasing security of land tenure.

Fresh Fruits Nexus: Supporting host and refugee farmers to produce fresh fruits, orange-fleshed sweet potatoes, and other value chains for the export market.

Catalyzing Inclusive Access to Market: Supporting refugee and refugee-hosting farmers to grow sunflower for the market in partnership with Mukwano, a private sector company.

Youth Empowerment: Equipping youth with vocational and entrepreneurial skills such as bricklaying, carpentry, tailoring, motor vehicle mechanics, etc., for both self-and formal employment.

Energy and Environment Conservation: Protection and restoration of the environment & promotion of safe access to sustainable energy and green livelihoods in refugee and host community districts.

Cash Based Interventions: Providing cash to refugees with different and innovative transfer mechanisms modalities such as the use of mobile and bank agents, e-vouchers etc., alongside financial literacy training for financial inclusion.

Disaster Preparedness and Response: Increasing resilience of refugee and host community districts through a more effective and coordinated response by first responders during emergencies such as natural disasters, influx of refugees or epidemics.

Strengthening Social Accountability: Building the capacities of community structures and individuals to raise awareness on the rights and responsibilities of marginalized groups. The focus is on promoting the participation of women and youth in decision making processes as well as demanding for open, accountable and gender equitable governance.

Gender Justice: Strengthening the role of the religious, community and national leaders as champions of gender equality.

Business and Human Rights: Promoting responsible business conduct as well as supporting a multi-stakeholder approach to the implementation of the national action plan for business and human rights.

Innovation: Promoting new technologies such as digital data gathering, cash-based interventions, energy-conservation technologies (such as briquettes and energy-saving stoves), and digitization of Village Savings and Loans Associations to provide easier access to credit.

Peaceful Co-existence: Supporting a national dialogue that involves all sectors of Uganda society in an inclusive process.



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