UGANDA

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Photo: Jesper Houborg

FACTS:

- **DCA has operated in Uganda since 1979.** The first DCA office was established in 2004.
- **Turnover in 2023:** EUR 4,891,700
- **Beneficiaries:** In 2023, DCA reached 6,754,000 people in need (96,000 directly and 6,658,000 indirectly).
- **Offices in the Country:** The Country Office is located in Kampala. Additionally, DCA has 1 major field office located in Yumbe in the West Nile sub-region (see map). DCA also has a smaller satellite office in Rhino Camp covering the refugee settlement.
- **Employees:** 55 staff
- **Projects:** In 2023, DCA had 31 active projects in Uganda.
- **Partners:** 25 local partners (6 faith-based, 16 secular, and 3 private sector partners)
- DCA operations in Uganda are supported by DANIDA, UNHCR, The European Union (EU), European Commission Humanitarian Aid & Civil Protection (ECHO), Novo Nordisk Foundation, Mastercard Foundation, ACT Alliance, JPA Espersen Foundation, Det Nytter Foundation, World Resources Institute, and the Danish population.

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT:

Uganda's operational context is characterized by the following:

- **Poverty** is a concern. The total population in poverty is 8.3 million, which equals 20.3% of the Ugandan population.

- **Public corruption** is a major concern.

- **Gender inequality** is high.

- 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. By December 2023, there were nearly 1.6 million refugees hosted in Uganda.

- **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 flee their countries due to conflict, violation of rights, and climate change-induced food insecurity are also among the highly vulnerable groups.

WHAT WE DO:

DCA Uganda works with three programs: Save Lives, Build Resilient Communities, and Fight Extreme Inequality. With a particular focus on youth, women, people affected by displacement, and marginalized groups.

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, multi-purpose cash transfers, village savings and loans associations (VSLA's), income-generating activities, agricultural produce, access to markets, access to clean and affordable cooking energy as well as 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 youth 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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HOW AND WHERE WE WORK:

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

Resilience Building: Supporting farmers in crop and livestock production, value addition, market access, income generation, business, and financial literacy trainings. In addition to ensuring marginalized communities' access to land through increasing land tenure security.

Fresh Fruits Nexus: Supporting host and refugee farmers in producing fresh vegetables and fruits (e.g., orange-fleshed sweet potatoes) for local consumption and export.

Catalyzing Inclusive Access to Market: DCA supported refugee and refugee-hosting farmers to grow sunflowers for oil production in partnership with the private sector company, Mukwano.
   DCA has also partnered with African Women (AWAN-UG) to enhance food systems and market access for farmers in the Teso sub-region, by empowering women to take on various roles in agribusiness value chains.

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 through innovative transfer mechanisms 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. A multi-hazard approach (natural disasters, demographic/ population movement, or epidemics) through early warning and early action strategies.

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 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.

SOUTH SUDAN — KENYA — Yumbe — Rhino Camp — DR CONGO — LAKE ALBERT — UGANDA — Kampala — LAKE VICTORIA — RWANDA — TANZANIA