



# JOINT PRESS RELEASE

## Japan contributes US\$ 3.3 million to support efforts towards refugees and host communities as well as COVID-19 response in Uganda

**KAMPALA, 21 April 2022,** The Government of Japan in March this year, committed approximately US\$ 3.3 million (US\$3,306,120) to support refugees and host communities protect refugee women from Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) with a strong focus on mitigating the COVID-19 impacts, over a period of one year from April 2022 to March 2023.

The support has been channeled through the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Entity for the Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), and the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP).

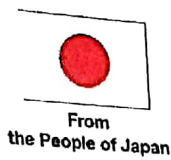
"I wish to reiterate that the Government of Japan's support and commitment to the plight of refugees as espoused in the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) and Uganda's Country Refugee Response Plan (UCRRP) is unwavering. For this cause, the Government of Japan in March 2022 committed approximately US\$ 3.3 million to support refugees as well as host communities, with a strong focus on nutrition and food security, primary health care, gender equality (including protection of refugee women from SGBV) and accountability and of course mitigating the COVID-19 impacts, over a period of one year from April 2022 to March 2023", said Ambassador Fukuzawa.

Honorable Hilary Onek, Minister of Relief, Disaster Preparedness and Refugees said, "The Government of Uganda commends the Government of Japan for the tireless effort and continuous support to Uganda. It is our hope that Japan will remain a partner to the Government of Uganda in addressing humanitarian challenges. Uganda continues to be Africa's largest Refugee hosting country with over 1.6 million Refugees from South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Somalia, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Burundi and other countries listed among host countries who equally need support as they shoulder the hosting burden."

Speaking on behalf of the UN system in Uganda, Mr. Antonio Querido, Country Representative of FAO, said, "I would like to applaud the government and people of Japan for this valuable contribution to the global efforts in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic as well as to the advancement of the human security in Uganda."

Present at the press conference were representatives of the involved UN agencies: Ms. Brigitte Eno (UNHCR Deputy Representative); Ms. Adekemi Ndieli (UN Women Uganda Country Representative a.i.); Mr. Marcus Prior (WFP Uganda Deputy Country Director).





The assistance has been provided to help meet the objectives the Global Compact on Refugees (GRC) through the implementation of the CRRF in Uganda, a whole-of-society approach which, under the Government of the Republic of Uganda's leadership, rallies support among a wide range of stakeholders including UN agencies, International Financial Institutions, development and humanitarian partners and the private sector to improve delivery of services for refugees and the communities hosting them.

#### **UNHCR**

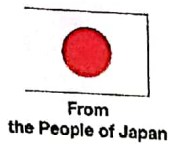
Has received US\$1,255,500 towards improving access to quality comprehensive primary health care at both health facility and community level within Bidibidi refugee settlement. This contributes to Universal Health Coverage for an estimated 303,000 individuals living among the refugee and host community (in line with Uganda's Health Sector Integrated Response Plan for Refugees and Host Communities, and Sustainable Development Goal 3: Good Health and Wellbeing) access to primary health care and improvement in health-seeking behaviour in Bidibidi refugee settlement, Yumbe District.

#### **UN Women**

Has received US \$ 1,000,620 to empower over 6,360 women, men and youth refugees and hosts (direct) and 10,000 (indirect) to mitigate the impact of covid-19 on their livelihoods, protect themselves from exposure to gender-based violence, and participate in decision-making processes within their communities in 3 refugee hosting districts of Adjumani, Yumbe and Kyegegwa. The proposed project builds on UN Women's experience and achievement in promoting the resilience, self-reliance, leadership, and protection of refugee women achieved in the last eight years in Uganda's refugee hosting districts. Key strategies will involve support to women's access to ICT facilities and skills training, and access to protection services, COVID-19 prevention and mitigation services and protection from SGBV. Transformational leadership skills, as well as positive gender norms will be promoted in support of women's participation and leadership in the management of covid-19 interventions within refugee and host community, and protection from violence.

#### **WFP**

Has received US\$1,050,000 to support the nutrition of vulnerable children and mothers in Karamoja and the refugee programme to address acute malnutrition. WFP will provide specialized nutritious foods (Lipid-Based Nutrient Supplements and Super Cereal Plus) to prevent and treat acute malnutrition to children aged 6-59 months and pregnant and nursing women while promoting social and behavioral change. With this contribution, the people of Japan are contributing



to Uganda's human capital development and national development plan objectives.

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**Speech by H.E. FUKUZAWA Hidemoto, Ambassador of Japan to Uganda**  
**Joint Media Conference on the Government of Japan's 2022 Contribution in Support of Refugees and**  
**Refugee Hosting Communities in the Republic of Uganda**

**12:00 noon, Thursday, 21 April, 2022**

**Uganda Media Centre, Kampala**

Minister of Relief Disaster Preparedness and Refugees, Honorable Hilary Onek,

Mr. Antonio Querido,  
Country Representative of FAO  
on behalf of UN System in Uganda

Ms. Brigitte Eno,  
UNHCR Deputy Representative,

Ms. Adekemi Ndieli,  
UN Women Uganda Country Representative,

Mr. Marcus Prior, WFP Uganda Deputy Country Director,

Friends from Media houses present,

Distinguished Guests,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning!

Today marks another milestone in the Japan-Uganda relations.

It is indeed exciting for me to welcome you all to this annual event when the Government of Japan announces the 2022 contribution in support of refugees and refugee hosting communities to WFP, UNHCR and UN Women.

It is a great pleasure for me to be together with Honorable Minister Hilary Onek and the team representatives from the respective UN agencies announcing the support for this year, which marks the 60<sup>th</sup> year of Japan-Uganda diplomatic relations.

In March 2022, the Government of Japan committed approximately 3.3 million USD to support refugees as well as host communities, with a strong focus on nutrition and food security, primary health care, gender equality including protection of women from Sexual and Gender based Violence and accountability, and of course mitigating the COVID-19 impacts. This commitment runs through over a period of one year from April 2022 to March 2023.

I would like to reiterate that the Government of Japan's support and commitment to the plight of refugees as espoused in the CRRF, Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework and Uganda's Country Refugee Response Plan (UCRRP) is unwavering. Last year, I had an opportunity to visit Northern Uganda and saw myself some of the projects and activities conducted with the support of the Government of Japan in regards to refugees and the host communities. This year, the areas that the projects will take place span over in Northern area such as Yumbe and North-eastern area such as Karamoja. I look forward to visiting the sites to see the developments and outcomes.

This year's support has been channelled through the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) and UN Women. Please refer to the Joint Press Release for further details on the respective projects.

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, as I conclude, I would like to introduce to you a concept, which is one of the key pillars or policy organs that guides our foreign policy not only to the Republic of Uganda but also in the African continent. It is so called TICAD, the Tokyo International Conference on African Development. The Government of Japan has been leading this conference since 1993, co-hosted by United Nations, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), World Bank and African Union Commission (AUC). The next TICAD, the TICAD8 is going to be held in Tunisia in August this year. In preparation for TICAD8, the Ministerial Meeting was held just a month ago. There, Japan's cooperation with African countries was confirmed with emphasis on "people" and "quality growth" based on the three pillars: "Economy", "Society" and "Peace and Stability". TICAD is one thing to show that Japan is deeply committed to the development of Africa. I must also say that Japan is committed to supporting the Ugandan Government and people of Uganda together with our friends and partners. It must be reminded that the Sustainable Development Goal, or SDG 17 is "Partnerships for the Goals." Today, I see many strong and powerful partners who work together to achieve this goal. Let us work together.

Thank you once again for your kind attention.

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**THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA**

**STATEMENT BY THE MINISTER FOR RELIEF, DISASTER  
PREPAREDNESS AND REFUGEES**

**AT THE JOINT PRESS CONFERENCE ON THE**

**SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET CONTRIBUTION BY THE  
GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN TO THE GOVERNMENT OF UGANDA IN  
SUPPORT OF REFUGEES & VULNERABLE GROUPS**

**21<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 2022**



- Your Excellency, The Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of Uganda,
- The UN Resident Coordinator,
- The UNHCR Uganda Representative,
- The WFP Representative,
- The UN Women Uganda Deputy Country Representative,
- Ladies and Gentlemen,

□ It gives me a great pleasure to address this joint press conference on the Government of Japan's 2022 Contribution in support for Refugees and Refugee Hosting Communities to the Republic of Uganda.

□ On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Uganda, allow me to first convey special thanks and appreciation to the Government of Japan through the Ambassador of Japan to Uganda for the generous support extended to the Government of Uganda to complement its efforts in the implementation of COVID-19 prevention measures, mitigate socio-economic impact in coordination with UNHCR, WFP and UN Women.

□ As part of Government of Japan's recognition of the importance of focusing on various challenges emerging from COVID-19 in areas of economy, peace and stability in Sub-Saharan Africa, the Government of Japan through the Ambassador of Japan to Uganda has today, this 21<sup>st</sup> April, 2022 contributed a total grant of USD: 3,276,150 to the Government of Uganda through UNHCR, WFP and UN Women targeting Refugees and vulnerable groups in a bid to meet the objectives of the Global Compact for Refugees.

□ Of the USD: 3,276,150 total grant;

— UNHCR has received USD: 1,255,500 to provide access to primary healthcare in line with Uganda's Comprehensive Refugee Response.

— WFP has received USD: 1,050,000 to provide food assistance to refugees and vulnerable communities in Uganda who are suffering from high levels of food insecurity and acute malnutrition.

— UN Women has received USD: 1,000,650 to prevent COVID-19 infections among women and girls displaced into IDPs and Refugee camps in East South African Republic.

- ❑ The Government of Uganda has put in place a conducive environment for refugee protection and management and adopted Global frameworks to steer and enhance this protection including Global Compact for refugees under the New York Declaration on Refugees and Migrants that underscore the importance of Global Political will and ambition to operationalize the principle of burden and responsibility sharing; to mobilize the international community as a whole and also galvanize action for an improved response to Refugee Situations.
- ❑ The Government of Uganda commends the Government of Japan for the tireless effort and continuous support to Uganda.
- ❑ It is our hope that Japan will remain a partner to the Government of Uganda in addressing humanitarian challenges.
- ❑ Uganda continues to be Africa's largest Refugee hosting country with over 1.6 million Refugees from South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Somalia, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Burundi, and other countries listed among host countries who equally need support as they shoulder the hosting burden.
- ❑ Let me finish by emphasizing to the World Uganda's commitment to honor its obligations under the international law in respect to hosting of Refugees despite scarcity of resources.

Thank You.

For God and My Country.



Eng. Hilary Onek (MP)

**MINISTER FOR RELIEF, DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND REFUGEES**