

The Impact Of United Nations High Commission For Refugees Towards The Empowerment Of Refugees In Resettlements. Case Study Of Kyaka II Resettlement In Kyegegwa District.

Ekitwi Ben¹, Freeman Chrispus²

1, 2 Metropolitan International University

Abstract

The study was about the intervention, management and impact of UNHCR towards empowerment of refugees in resettlements. Case study of Kyaka II Resettlement of Uganda. The study was guided by the following objectives: To assess the impact of UNHCR towards refugee welfare in Kyaka II resettlement, to find out the causes of refugee crisis in Uganda, to find out the challenges faced by Uganda and UNHCR in managing refugee's crisis and to establish the strategies that can be adopted to harmonize refugee crisis in Uganda. This study focused on the area where refugees are living in Uganda that is Kyaka II refugee settlement in Kyegegwa District in order to find out how the organization is responding towards the refugee's empowerment. This study made use of a case study and a cross sectional study design and this was used because the researcher wants to gather data once over a period of time in order to answer the research questions. The study also found out that, challenges faced during refugees' crisis management and empowerment include: financial burdens, poor health facilities, inadequate funds, high level of corruption, political tensions and security alerts and lack of legal Protection. The study also discovered that, strategies which can be adopted to deal with refugee's crisis include the following: Establishment of refugee's crisis management ministry, aligning humanitarian aid to refugees based activities, funds mobilization through fundraising, facilitating and opening up educational opportunities, developing awareness campaigns for refugees host communities and resettlement of refugees to a better area. The study recommended that, there is need for strengthened collaborative efforts between government and UNHCR and other partners to ensure increased services availability to the refugees in order to ensure effectiveness in refugees' crisis management. The government should allocate a big percentage to refugees' crisis management specifically in each financial year budget and its implementation should be monitored by officials from the state and other partners.

And there should be also much emphasis on programmes like voluntary participation for all stakeholders including host communities and refugees themselves

Keywords: United Nations High Commission, Refugees, Empowerment and Resettlements

Background to the study

According to (Rashida et al., 2023), a refugee is essentially a contested concept whose definition varies among political actors, but whose definition can be re-challenged by framing in political discourse, a refugee is an irregular economic migrant who is not accepted by the receiving state and who they cannot claim any rights at all.

In order to assess how UNHCR contributes to the management and empowerment of refugees during and after a crisis, it is first necessary to define the term 'crisis'. A crisis is broadly understood as “an acute situation in which armed forces are (probably) used, or an existential threat that only allows a short-term response (Racheal et al., 2023). The term differs from the term conflict, which is more broadly defined as any national or international situation where priority value interests and goals are threatened or violated. Contrary to the widely accepted definition, Lunn, (2011) considers the concept of crisis to be extremely broad in nature, identifying the crisis according to its key components, namely the threat to important values, norms and structures of society (Christopher, Moses, Muhindo and Muhammad, 2022). According to Kerwin (2011), crisis management is “the organization, regulation, procedural framework and measures to manage a crisis and shape its future direction while solutions are sought. The term crisis management “serves as a catch-all phrase for both military and civilian operations, whether they are deployed to prevent the outbreak of conflict in a crisis, assist in peace enforcement, peacekeeping or peacebuilding (Faridah et al., 2023).

Much of the discussion revolves around legality, macro-political/economic issues and emergency relief, which often lack relevance for those personally experiencing displacement. Internal displacement does not occur as a result of individual “choice” per se and represents a situation of freedom for refugees of unfreedom and its expansion represents human development, we can argue that development did not occur during the process of forced displacement and subsequently lead to deprivation of capabilities (Ninsiima et al., 2023) . This is certainly the reasoning used by West (2013) who reaffirms that displacement itself is evidence of the unique vulnerability of refugees. Refugees pose a serious challenge to human development practitioners who aim to expand freedoms among refugee populations whose root cause is unfreedom. State intervention is the government's involvement in the management of refugee activities. Uganda was one of the countries around the world that participated in solving the refugee problem.

With one of the largest immigrant populations in the world, Uganda is currently home to more than 7,500,000 million refugees (Christopher, Moses, Muhindo, & Komunda, 2022). A decade-long civil war has sent some 1,000,000 South Sudanese refugees fleeing to their southern neighbor. In the west, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, a country where tens of thousands of civilians have been caught up in a series of violence between Congolese authorities and local militias that has led to the exodus of more than 220,000 people, 34,241 from Burundi, 25,321 from Somalia, 13,907 from Rwanda, 2,549 from Sudan and 17.98 from Ethiopia (Christopher, Moses, Muhindo, & Komunda, 2022).

In Uganda, since the early 1990s, refugees have continued to live in refugee settlements, particularly in the northwest and northern parts of Uganda, and the implications of forced immigration for Uganda are varied. These implications for host communities should be considered in terms of host country economies, local resources, facilities and services, among others. The refugee problem is often further exacerbated as it increases the population of host communities with a relative lack of land for cultivation (Ntirandekura & Christopher, 2022a). It is in light of this that refugees are often seen as a socio-economic and environmental burden on the communities that host them. Many refugees are still entering Uganda and this has prompted the Ugandan government to request assistance from other countries (Ntirandekura & Christopher, 2022b). Refugees are putting pressure on settlements in Uganda that cannot provide enough shelter, food, water and medical care, leaving the most vulnerable struggling to survive. Uganda is celebrated around the world for its generosity towards those desperately fleeing violence. Unlike other East African countries such as Kenya, where refugees are confined to camps, Uganda has historically provided refugees with land for farming and building houses, in addition to free health care and education (Anthony et al., 2023).

The overwhelming number of refugees is partly explained by Uganda's less strict refugee policy. Uganda has a liberal and generous refugee policy. With the passage and entry into force of the Refugees Act 2006, refugees in Uganda are entitled under section 28 to internationally recognized refugee rights, including the right to work under section 29(1) (VI), and to freedom of movement within Uganda under Section 30 (Flavia et al., 2023). Refugees in Uganda are entitled to the same rights as nationals to practice their religion and are entitled to basic education for which section 29 requires them to be treated the same as nationals. According to § 36, a family member of an asylum seeker has the same right to these rights. Pursuant to Section 44, paragraph 2, a refugee may reside in a place other than the refugee settlement in Uganda. With such a policy, Uganda is an attractive destination for refugees (Refugee Studies Centre, Working Paper No. 95, p. 6).

Statement of the Problem

Uganda is committed to addressing the issues related to the refugee crisis and well-being, and therefore a major effort has been made to collect food and establish minimum shelters for them with the support of the World Food Program and many NGOs (Christopher, Moses, Muhindo, & Muhammad, 2022). However, this is refugee-centric, that is, they only focus on the refugees themselves, rather than the management of the refugee crisis (Ntirandekura & Christopher, 2022a). Furthermore, much of the effort has focused on the humanitarian and security implications that refugees have on host communities, and this has left issues related to the refugee crisis. The aim of this study was therefore to determine the impact of UNHCR interventions on the management and empowerment of refugees in Uganda (Ntirandekura et al., 2022).

General objectives to the study

The general objective of the study was to assess the impact of UNHCR intervention on refugees' Empowerment and crisis management in Uganda using Kyaka II settlement as a case study

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Specific Objectives of the study

1. To find out the causes of refugee crisis in Uganda
2. To find out the challenges faced by UNHCR in managing and empowering refugee's in Kyaka settlement
3. To establish the strategies that can be adopted to harmonize refugee crisis's in Uganda.

Methodology

Research design provides a framework for the collection and analysis of data". This study made use of a case study and a cross sectional study design and this was because the researcher wanted to gather data once over a period of time in order to answer the research questions. According to Grönroos (2007), a cross-sectional study is a class of research methods that involves observation of all population, or a representative subset, at one specific point in time and for this case data was be collected from September to November 2023. The researcher employed both quantitative and qualitative approaches. Qualitative techniques helped the researcher to come up with conclusions on variables that was not be measured quantitatively while quantitative techniques were facilitated by the establishment of values attached to numerical variables.

The study was interested in gathering related data available within the areas of Uganda focusing on Kyaka II refugee settlement in Kyegegwa District. The settlement was chosen for this study because it is among the oldest areas in Uganda that have been hosting refugees.

The targeted population included government officials, officials of UN agencies, locals, community leaders and the refugees and the study population was 92 respondents. This was used because it was to make it easy for the researcher to get reliable data.

From the study population of 92, the sample size of 75 was selected and the researcher opted for this sample size because it enabled him to gather the required data.

Table 1. Sample size and sampling techniques

Position	Population	Sample size	Percentage (%)	Sampling technique
Government officials	7	5	7	Purposive sampling
UN officials	3	2	3	Purposive sampling
Citizens	25	20	26	Random sampling
Community Leaders	5	4	5	Purposive sampling

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Refugees	52	44	59	Random sampling
Total	92	75	100	

Source: Primary data (2023)

Questionnaire were preferred for this study because it is an appropriate instrument for any survey research and information obtained is fairly and the questionnaire responses are easily coded.

Data collected was be edited manually, coded, tabulation and processed using Microsoft word and excel program before it is analyzed. Coding; this involved transcribing the data from the questionnaire to a coding sheet which then punched into computer, tabulation; here the data was arranged in columns and rows to facilitate statistical computations and editing; this was done to ensure that data is accurate and consistent uniformly entered and arranged to facilitate coding and tabulation.

Data analysis was done through, data editing, sorting, coding and data error checking Gronross (2007). Data was presented and analyzed using tables, percentage and frequencies using SPSS & STATA (Nelson et al., 2022). This is because of its flexibility and friendliness in data entry and analysis

RESULTS

Table 1: Civil war occurring in Great lakes region is the main reason for refugees' crisis.

		Frequency	Percent	Cumulative percentage
Valid	Strongly Disagree	0	0	-
	Disagree	0	0	-
	Not Sure	10	13.3	13.3
	Agree	30	26.7	40
	Strongly Agree	45	60	100
	Total	75	100.0	

Source: Primary data (2024)

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According to the table above, 45(60%) strongly agreed, 20(26.7%) and 10(13.3%) were not sure. Majority of the respondents agreed and this implies that civil war occurring in great lakes region is the main reason for refugees' crisis. The study revealed that, currently, the largest group of refugees in Uganda is fleeing civil conflict in the surrounding countries such as Democratic Republic of Congo, which has been raging since 2011 and has killed 100,000 people (Sharon et al., 2023). But before South Sudan and Congo, the study also discovered that refugees fled due to wars in Burundi and Rwanda in droves in the early 1980s, 90s and 2000s, making Uganda to have the largest number of refugees in the Great lakes region, thus escalating refugees' crisis.

Table 2: Inadequate food among Great lakes countries has also contributed to refugees crisis

		Frequency	Percent	Cumulative percentage
Valid	Strongly Disagree	5	6.7	6.7
	Disagree	15	20	26.7
	Not Sure	-	0	26.7
	Agree	10	13.3	40
	Strongly Agree	45	60	100
	Total	75	100	

Source: Primary data (2023)

The table above indicates that, majority of the total respondents 45(60%) Strongly Agreed, 10(13.3%) agreed, 15(20%) disagreed and 5(6.7%) strongly disagreed. Majority of the respondents agreed with the statement that inadequate food among Great lakes countries has also contributed to refugees' crisis. The study found out that, over 100,000 refugees in Kyaka II resettlement fled because of hunger caused by extreme drought in their home areas (Nicholas et al., 2023). Majority of the refugees came from Eastern democratic republic of Congo and many of these individuals were forced from their homelands in search for food.

The outbreak of harsh climate conditions in some areas also a factor for refugees' Crisis Uganda.

Table 3: The outbreak of harsh climate conditions in some areas also a factor for refugees' crisis

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		Frequency	Percent	Cumulative percentage
Valid	Strongly Disagree	0	0	-
	Disagree	20	26.7	26.7
	Not Sure	0	0	26.7
	Agree	45	60	86.7
	Strongly Agree	10	13.3	100
	Total	75	100.0	

Source: Primary data (2023)

According to the table above, 10(13.3%), strongly agreed, 45(60%) agreed and 20(26.7%) Disagreed and 0(0%) were not sure. Majority of the respondents agreed with the statement and this implies that the outbreak of harsh climate conditions in some areas also is a factor for refugees' crisis. The study found out that some people became refugees due to harsh climate such as heavy sunshine, landslides and mud slides in their home areas (Christopher, 2022).

Lack of legal routs to safety in Great lakes region also contribute to refugee's crisis

Table 4: Lack of legal routs to safety in Great lakes region also contribute to refugees crisis into the country

		Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	0	0	0
	Disagree	5	6.7	6.7
	Not Sure	5	6.7	13.4
	Agree	20	26.6	26.6

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	Strongly Agree	45	60	100
	Total	75	100.0	100.0

Source: Primary data (2023)

From the table above, 45(60%) strongly agreed, 20(26.7%) agreed, 0(0%) strongly disagree, 5(6.7%) disagreed and 5(6.7%) were not sure. Majority of the respondents agreed and this implies that lack of legal routs to human safety among the great lakes region also has contributed to refugee's crisis in Uganda. Respondents told the researcher that, about 5% of the refugees in Kyaka II Refugees settlement had no any other life alternative in their home areas except becoming refugees.

Humanitarian rights violation in parts of Great lakes also causes refugees crisis.

The study asked respondents whether humanitarian rights violation in parts of Great lakes also causes refugees crisis and the results are indicated in the table 4:

Table 5: Humanitarian rights violation in parts of Great lakes also causes refugees crisis.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	10	13.4	13.4
	Disagree	-	-	13.4
	Not Sure	-	-	13.4
	Agree	20	26.6	40
	Strongly Agree	45	60	100
	Total	75	100.0	100.0

Source: Primary data (2023)

According to the table above, 45(60%) strongly agreed, 20(26.7%) agreed, 10(13.4%) disagreed. Majority of the respondents agreed and this implies that humanitarian rights violation in parts of great lakes also causes refugees crisis. The study found out that, in countries ravaged by massive violation of human rights mostly against women and children for example Burundi, DRC and South Sudan; many people have been forced to leave their homes to Uganda in search of survival. It was further discovered that, majority of the refugees in Kyaka II refugee settlement were women and children and was due to violation their rights in their home countries (Flavia et al., 2023).

Table 6: Natural disasters like floods in some parts of Great lakes also causes refugees crisis.

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		Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	10	13.3	13.3
	Disagree	25	33.4	46.6
	Not Sure	10	13.4	60
	Agree	15	20	80
	Strongly Agree	15	20	100
	Total	75	100.0	

Source: Primary data (2024)

From the table above, 15(20%) strongly agreed, 15(20%) agreed, 10(13.3%) were not sure 25(33.4%) disagreed and 10(13.3%) strongly disagreed. Majority of the respondents agreed and this implies that Natural disasters like floods in some parts of Great lakes also have caused refugees running to Uganda.

Refugees financial burden to the host countries

The study asked respondents whether refugees are becoming a financial burden to the host countries and UNHCR, the results are indicated in the table 4.10 below:

Table 7: Refugees are becoming a financial burden to the horst countries

		Frequency	Percent	Cumulative
				Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	5	6.7	6.7
	Disagree	20	26.7	33.4
	Not Sure	-	0	33.4
	Agree	25	33.3	66.7
	Strongly Agree	25	33.3	100
	Total	75	100.0	

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Source: Primary data (2024)

From the table above, 25(33.3%) strongly agreed, 25(33.3%) agreed, 5(6.7%) strongly disagree and 20(26.7%) disagreed. Majority of the respondents agreed with the statement and this implies that Refugees are becoming a financial burden to the UNHCR and the host countries. The study found out that, it is very difficult for Uganda to cater for refugees in terms of buying land, water, housing, food and medical services (Gracious, 2023).

Table 8: Poor health facilities associated with host communities in Kyaka

		Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	0	0	0
	Disagree	5	6.6	6.6
	Not Sure	5	6.6	13.4
	Agree	20	26.6	33.4
	Strongly Agree	45	60	100
	Total	75	100.0	

Source: Primary data (2023)

From the table above, 45(60%) strongly agreed, 20(26.7%) agreed, 0(0%) strongly disagree, 5(6.7%) disagreed and 5(6.7%) were not sure. Majority of the respondents agreed and this implies that Poor health facilities associated with host communities in Kyegegwa district.

Table 9: Inadequate funds to finance the refugee's management and empowerment activities

		Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	10	13.3	13.3
	Disagree	10	13.3	26.6

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	Not Sure	0	-	26.6
	Agree	20	26.7	53.3
	Strongly Agree	35	46.7	100
	Total	75	100.0	

Source: Primary data (2024)

According to the table above, 45(60%) strongly agreed, 20(26.7%) agreed, 10(13.3%) strongly disagreed, 10(13.3%) disagreed and 0(00%) were not sure. Majority of the respondents agreed and this implies that inadequate funds to finance the refugee's management and empowerment activities. The study found out that in Kyaka II Refugees settlement, the number of refugees increases every day and this affects the budget for refugees. It was further discovered that, many of the refugees need help in obtaining shelter, food, healthcare, schooling and other services such as water and sanitation in order to survive and this requires a lot of money. In Kyaka II refugees' settlement camp, 75% of the refugees are women and children and it is very expensive to cater for this group of people. The respondents from the office of the prime minister and UNHCR told the researcher that, among the reasons why the government has not responded to the refugees' empowerment is a lack of funds.

Table 10: High levels of corruption among host countries especially Uganda has affected the management and empowerment of refugees.

		Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	0	0	0
	Disagree	5	6.7	6.7
	Not Sure	10	13.3	20
	Agree	40	53.3	73.3
	Strongly Agree	20	26.7	100
	Total	75	100.0	

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Source: Primary data (2024)

From the table above, 40(53.3%) agreed, 20(26.7%) Strongly agreed, 5(6.7%), agreed and 10(13.3%) were not sure. Majority of the respondents agreed and this implies that high levels of corruption among host countries especially in resettlements in Uganda has affected the management and empowerment of refugees. The study revealed that, in some cases the management of Kyaka II refugees' settlement finds themselves with little money or nothing, it was discovered that the reasons behind this are political, because the money is always transferred to other activities due to their proximity of the those in charge budgeting and implementation (Annet et al., 2023). The study also revealed that some donor such World Bank has stopped their aid towards refugees due to their misuse. The study findings are supported by Houston et al (2009) who argued that high level of corruption make international donors shy away from transferring money unless there are watchdog mechanisms in place.

Political tensions and security alerts make it difficult to empower refugees.

Table 11: Political tensions and security alerts make it difficult to manage refugee's activities.

		Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	15	20	20
	Disagree	-	-	20
	Not Sure	15	20	40
	Agree	25	33.3	73.3
	Strongly Agree	20	26.7	100
	Total	75	100.0	

Source: Primary data (2024)

From the table above, 20(26.7%) strongly agreed, 25(33.3%) agreed, 15(20%) were not sure 0(00%) disagreed and 15(20%) strongly disagreed. Majority of the respondents agreed with statement and this implies that Political tensions and security alerts make it difficult to manage refugee's activities of empowerment. The study found out that, tension among the refugees is common in Uganda and this is because, refugees come from various different factions, some oppositions and some supporting the governments where they come from and hence making it difficult for the government and UNHCR to do the needful (Polycarp et al., 2023). Also Grognet (1997), states that, the majority of the

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refugees bring demographic and social change and posing serious hazards to the host countries due to political tension among the refugees themselves.

Table 12: Lack of legal protection

		Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	10	13.3	13.3
	Disagree	25	33.4	46.6
	Not Sure	10	13.4	60
	Agree	15	20	80
	Strongly Agree	15	20	100
	Total	75	100.0	

Source: Primary data (2024)

From the table above, 15(20%) strongly agreed, 15(20%) agreed, 10(13.3%) were not sure 25(33.4%) disagreed and 10(13.3%) strongly disagreed. Majority of the respondents agreed and this implies that lack of legal protection of refugees is one of the challenges faced by UNHCR in managing and empowering refugees'. The study revealed that, in Uganda, legal protection against refugees is not adequate for example there is no local principle that governs the host communities against refugees' crisis management (Faridah et al., 2023). Respondents from the field told the researcher that, protection of refugees is only the mandate of UNHCR not anybody else and this makes hard for Uganda in the refugees' crisis management.

Table 13: Difficulties in refugee's identification

		Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	10	13.3	13.3
	Disagree	15	20	46.6

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	Not Sure	10	13.4	60
	Agree	25	33.3	80
	Strongly Agree	15	20	100
	Total	75	100.0	

Source: Primary data (2024)

From the table above, 25(33.3%) strongly agreed, 15(20%) agreed, 10(13.3%) were not sure 15(33.4%) disagreed and 10(13.3%) strongly disagreed. Majority of the respondents agreed and this implies that difficulties in refugees' identification pose a great challenge in empowering refugees'. The study discovered that, due to the mass flight of refugees, registration becomes difficult which means that some of them end not being registered neither identified. According to the UNHCR report 2016, the number of refugees in Uganda is not known and this is due to registration problems, the report also indicated that, there is no common refugees' data base that may help in the management of refugees. In addition, the study through interviews revealed that, some refugees get mix up with the host communities. For example, the study found out some of them serve as labourers in Kyegegwa district, others get married in the host community, thus making it hard for refugee's empowerment and management.

Table 14: Establishment of refugee's crisis management ministry

		Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	5	6.7	6.7
	Disagree	20	26.7	33.4
	Not Sure	-	0	33.4
	Agree	30	40	73.7
	Strongly Agree	20	26.7	100
	Total	75	100.0	

Source: Primary data (2024)

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From the table above, 30(40%) strongly agreed, 20(26.7%) agreed, 5(6.7%) strongly disagree and 20(26.7%) disagreed. Majority of the respondents agreed with the statement and this implies that Establishment of refugees' crisis management body will solve the problem of refugees' crisis. It was discovered that, the body needs to be linked with the local councils who can act as intermediaries between government, municipalities, local associations, and international organizations in handling refugees' crisis. It was further revealed that, refugees' management is still under the office of the prime minister, therefore establishing an independent body will help to respond quicker to refugees' challenges and avoid the bureaucratic and administrative procedures that hinder the organization to intervene in refugees' crisis management and other international organizations.

Table 15: Aligning humanitarian aid to refugee based activities for easy financing.

		Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	10	13.3	13.3
	Disagree	5	6.6	20.2
	Not Sure	5	6.6	28.7
	Agree	10	13.3	40
	Strongly Agree	45	60	100
	Total	75	100.0	

Source: Primary data (2024)

From the table above, 45(60%) strongly agreed, 10(13.3%) agreed, 10(13.3%) strongly disagree, 5(6.6%) disagreed and 5(6.6%) were not sure. Majority of the respondents agreed and this implies aligning humanitarian aid to refugee based activities for easy financing by the state. The study found out that, the specific needs and local conditions of the state in alignment with the humanitarian effort, building on the resilience of local communities against refugees' crisis management and empowerment is important.

Table 16: Setting up a development fund for refugee's activities

		Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent

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Valid	Strongly Disagree	10	13.3	13.3
	Disagree	25	33.4	46.6
	Not Sure	10	13.4	60
	Agree	15	20	80
	Strongly Agree	15	20	100
	Total	75	100.0	

Source: Primary data (2024)

From the table above, 15(20%) strongly agreed, 15(20%) agreed, 10(13.3%) were not sure 25(33.4%) disagreed and 10(13.3%) strongly disagreed. Majority of the respondents disagreed and this implies that setting up a development fund for refugees' activities is not the best solution for refugees' crisis. It was discovered that, the development already exists but the money is being misused, in addition the influx of refugees goes beyond the budget (Kazaara & Kazaara, 2023).

Table 7: Funds mobilization through fundraising and other sorts of contribution

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Valid	Strongly Disagree	30	40	40
	Disagree	-	-	40
	Not Sure	-	0	40
	Agree	25	33.3	73.3
	Strongly Agree	20	26.7	100
	Total	75	100.0	

Source: Primary data (2024)

From the table above, 25(33.3%) agreed, 20(26.7%) disagreed and 30(40%) strongly disagreed. Majority of the respondents disagreed and this implies that funds mobilization through fund arising and other sorts of contribution. The study found out that, to address the shortage of funds, the organization in conjunction with the state must get ways of collecting funds such as fundraising and budget allocations in respect to refugees' crisis and empowerment.

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Relationship between UNHCR intervention and refugees’ empowerment and management

Table 18: Correlation Analysis Matrix

	UNHCR intervention	Refugees’ empowerment and management
Pearson Correlation	1	0.754**
state intervention Sig. (2-tailed)		0.000
N	100	180
Refugees’ crisis management	Pearson Correlation	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.000
	N	100

**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

The correlation result revealed a positive significant relationship between UNHCR intervention and refugees’ empowerment and management ($r = 0.654^{**}$, $p < 0.05$). This implies that the organization’s intervention has the capacity to improve refugees’ empowerment and management.

Regression Analysis

Regression analysis was performed in order to establish the extent to which UNHCR intervention explained the degree of variance in refugees’ empowerment and management. The result obtained is presented in the model summary table that follows:

Table 19: Regression Analysis Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	0.654a	0.568	0.563	0.47784

a. Predictors: (Constant), state intervention

The regression analysis result in table 19 revealed that state intervention contributes up to 56.3% to refugees’ crisis (Adjusted R square= 0.563, SEE = 0.47784). This means the remaining percentage (43.7%) is contributed by other factors (Nelson et al., 2023). It also implies that when UNHCR intervention is utilized, refugees’ empowerment and management will also be achieved.

ANOVA Analysis

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Table 20: Analysis of Variance

Model	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Regression	28.499	1	28.499	124.812	0.000b
1 Residual	21.691	95	0.228		
Total	50.190	96			

a. Dependent Variable: Refugees' crisis management

b. Predictors: (Constant), State intervention

According to the ANOVA test results in the table 20, it was revealed that UNHCR intervention significantly enhances refugees' crisis management and empowerment ($F=124.81$, $P<0.05$). This implies that best practices of UNHCR intervention have the capacity of influencing refugees' empowerment.

Conclusions

Through exploring the existing academic and popular literature around historical and contemporary case studies, refugees impact on the state of affairs of Uganda and host community of Kyaka II resettlement area, these include: attracting development agencies, employment opportunities for people living around camp areas, border utilization and infrastructure development. However, refugees' crisis has remained an acute topic as far the state programs are concerned. The refugee problem in Great Lakes Region is one of the most acute challenge and most of these problems have become protracted refugee situations. This is because; the armed conflicts which originally forced people to leave their own countries have dragged on for many years, making it impossible for them to return to their homeland.

The study discovered that, UNHCR has come up with a number of assistance programs in order to intervene in refugees' crisis and empowerment and it has tried and helped refugees access their basic needs such as food, shelter and clothing. The study revealed that there was much effort put by the organization in providing health services especially among pregnant mothers and children. For instance, they are given treatment during both pre -natal and post-natal. They are also sensitized about their health; they are given mosquito nets in order to reduce the rate of malaria. However, the assistance has its own shortfalls in terms of effectively and efficiently providing for the needs of refugees for example food has not been enough. One weakness has been greater emphasis on provision of material support and placing little emphasis emotional and other psychological needs of refugees. Hence, UNHCR needs to continue to make consented efforts with various stakeholders for ensured maximum support to meet and deal with refugees' crisis.

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It is evident that many activities have led to the refugees crisis in the Great Lakes Region and these include the following civil wars, inadequate food, harsh climates, and lack of legal routes to safety, humanitarian rights violation and natural disasters.

The study also found out that, challenges faced during refugees' empowerment and management include: financial burdens, poor health facilities, inadequate funds, high level of corruption, political tensions and security alerts and lack of legal protection. The study revealed that there are many factors that hinder the refugees' crisis management process which include inadequate funds, lack of coordination between state officials and leadership. The major causes of these problems are rooted in lack of adequate financial resources which limit the ability of state to adequately provide the necessary needs of refugees. At national level the finding reflect that limited financial resources results in inadequate health equipment and staff shortages.

The study also discovered that, strategies which can be adopted to deal with refugees include the following: Establishment of refugee's crisis management body, aligning humanitarian aid to refugees-based activities, funds mobilization through fundraising, facilitating and opening up educational opportunities, developing awareness campaigns for refugee's host communities and resettlement of refugees to a better area.

Recommendations

UNHCR should encourage and adopt peaceful means of negotiation in order reduce on civil conflicts and this will reduce on the number of refugees fleeing to Uganda. There is need for strengthened collaborative efforts between government and UNHCR especially on the side of financing and other partners to ensure increased services availability to the refugees in order to ensure effectiveness in refugees' crisis management. More NGOs should continue to work hand in hand in with state and the government in order to raise enough funds to assist the interventions in refugees crisis management. Behavior functional change should be emphasized among all the activities and programmes conducted by the state in managing refugees' crisis. For example, apart from collaborations in rising funds, they should also be reminded that avoiding violence is also vital for refugees' management.

Ugandan government should coordinate with other partners in order to reduce on the level of corruption. There should be also much emphasis on programmes like voluntary participation for all stakeholders including host communities and refugees themselves.

Uganda and other partners by adopting the strategies that have been advanced in this study in order to improve on refugees' Empowerment and management.

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